



## March - April 2011 Newsletter

### News

#### Evaluation of the NHMRC Stroke and TIA Care Bundle

Thank you to those who have signed up to participate in this evaluation. The data from your hospitals will be invaluable. There is still time for other EDs to be involved in this national study; consisting of a short online qualitative survey and a one-off clinical audit. Using the online audit tool provided, participants will get immediate results to provide feedback to your staff and management on key aspects of quality stroke/TIA patient care, and be able to instantly compare aggregate summary data with other participating EDs.

The aim of the evaluation is to determine if the Care Bundle format is effective as a guideline implementation tool for the emergency care setting and leads to improved patient outcomes.

Please email [jodie.clydesdale@nhmrc.gov.au](mailto:jodie.clydesdale@nhmrc.gov.au) for more information.

### Articles of interest

Than, M. et al. (2011) [A 2-h diagnostic protocol to assess patients with chest pain symptoms in the Asia-Pacific region \(ASPECT\): a prospective observational validation study](#). The Lancet. 377: 1077- 84. March 26.

Tomte, O. et al. (2011) [A comparison of intravascular and surface cooling techniques in comatose cardiac arrest survivors](#). Critical Care Medicine. 39(3): 443-49.

Kamel, H. et al. (2011) [Hypertonic saline versus mannitol for the treatment of elevated intracranial pressure: A meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials](#). Critical Care Medicine. 39(3):554-559.

Neal, M, et al. (2011) [Over Reliance on Computed Tomography Imaging in Patients With Severe Abdominal Injury: Is the Delay Worth the Risk?](#) Journal of Trauma, Injury, Infection, and Critical Care. 70(2): 278-84.

#### Evidence-based assessment in paediatrics

Although heart rate and respiratory rate in children are measured routinely in acute settings, current reference ranges are not based on evidence. This paper aimed to derive new centile charts for these vital signs and to compare these centiles with existing international ranges.

Fleming, S. et al. (2011) [Normal ranges of heart rate and respiratory rate in children from birth to 18 years of age: a systematic review of observational studies](#). The Lancet. 377(9770):1011-18.

### Guideline spotlight

The **National Blood Authority** has just released [Patient blood management guidelines module 1. Critical bleeding massive transfusion](#). These Guidelines aim to improve clinical outcomes by avoiding unnecessary exposure to blood components to optimise the use of donor blood and reduce transfusion-associated risk. Go to:

<http://www.clinicalguidelines.gov.au/browse.php?treePath=&pageType=2&fldglrID=1844&>

The **Australian Resuscitation Council** has recently revised thirty of their guidelines. Go to:

<http://www.clinicalguidelines.gov.au/browse.php?pageType=6&organisationCode=205&>



To access these and other Australian guidelines related to emergency care, visit [www.clinicalguidelines.gov.au](http://www.clinicalguidelines.gov.au) and browse: healthcare settings > emergency care

### Emergency Care Information Gateway

Remember to share journal papers of interest and clinical tools with your colleagues on the Information Gateway: [www.emergencycare.nhmrc.gov.au/gateway](http://www.emergencycare.nhmrc.gov.au/gateway)

### Conferences

**CENA** 9th International Conference of Emergency Nurses.

28 September - 1 October. Adelaide.

<http://www.cdesign.com.au/cena2011/>

Abstracts due 2nd May 2011

**Paramedics Australasia Conference.**

5 - 8 October, 2011. Sydney.

<http://conference.acap.org.au/>

**ACEM** 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting

20-24 November 2011. Sydney.

<http://www.acem2011.com/>

Abstracts due 30 June 2011

### Emergency Research

**Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation (QEMRF)**

Congratulations to the QEMRF team for their recent leadership in a number of key studies, one of which was published in Lancet (see articles of interest).

QEMRF was established in 2007 with the support of Queensland Health and the Queensland Government to allocate grants to individuals and project groups interested in improving the care of patients in Emergency Departments in Queensland.

Go to: <http://www.qemrf.org.au/> for more information.

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