



NATIONAL CANCER NURSING EDUCATION PROJECT (EDCAN) - NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR CANCER NURSES

FACT SHEET

Project Team:

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Aim:

A 4-year project to develop a national framework, and educational resources that will help direct the long-term workforce development of nurses providing cancer care. Funding for this project is provided by Cancer Australia through the Strengthening Cancer Care initiative.

Project Objectives:

- To develop a national framework for the cancer nursing workforce that will establish role definitions and role scope, set educational preparation standards and consider strategies to implement the framework.
- To support the development of the skills of the cancer nursing workforce including developing curriculum documents for all levels and resource materials to support the development of core competencies.
- To disseminate the framework through the development of online resources and test these with a pilot project undertaken in a range of settings, including rural and remote areas.
- To address the sustainability issues associated with long-term workforce preparation and development in cancer nursing.
- To consider the feasibility of adaptation of resources by undergraduate allied health and indigenous health providers.

Design:

The project will be conducted in three overlapping phases, each with identified deliverables to be completed in June 2009.

Phase 1

Scoping the main activities of the project which includes:

- Stakeholder engagement and communication strategies established which includes:
 - Establishing the Cancer Nursing Education Project (EdCaN) Steering Committee
 - Implementing a communication strategy
 - Identification of key stakeholders including nurses, consumers, education providers and other national cancer projects
- Undertaking review of existing university cancer education programs across Australia
- Undertaking comprehensive literature review
- Coordinating national needs surveys of cancer nurses
- Undertaking development of a national framework to be completed by end of Phase 2

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A National project auspiced by Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and is supported by funding from Cancer Australia through the Strengthening Cancer Care initiative

Phase 2

- Undertaking analysis of any gaps in cancer nursing education which may impact on achieving identified workforce standards in cancer nursing.
- Developing resource materials (including online) to support the delivery of cancer education for nursing practice from undergraduate to post-graduate level.
- Developing a strategic plan for implementation of the framework and education resources across Australia in conjunction with National Consortium Partners.
- Consider feasibility of educational resources developed being adapted for use in undergraduate allied health and indigenous health workers curriculum.

Phase 3

- Pilot testing education resources in the metropolitan and rural & remote settings.
- Refining delivery systems, competency and education resource materials.
- Finalising evaluation.

Evaluation:

Evaluation of the project will be undertaken by Siggins Miller Consultancy.

Further Information:

The EdCaN website is an easy way to keep up to date with the project. It also provides links to other key organisations. The website offers the opportunity to contact the EdCaN team to provide feedback and comments. To register as a stakeholder and receive further updates for this project visit the EdCaN website www.edcan.org or alternatively, if you would like to invite an EdCaN Staff member to conduct an information session at your workplace, please telephone (03) 9656 3770 or email edcan@edcan.org.

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