

“CAPRE” Program: Capacity Building in Research & Evaluation The Newcastle Approach to the PHC RED Program - 2002

Background

- Program named “CAPRE” (Capacity Building in Research and Evaluation).
- Staff: (Director, Coordinator, 2 Project Officers, HEARNet Coordinator, 3 GP Academics).
- Aim to engage with more PHC groups in 2003 via various engagement strategies.
- 2002 Business Plan includes more than 55 activities.
- Specialising in research networks, collaborative research, EBP, web based learning, annual PHC research conferences.

Main Activity Summary

1. “HEARNet” - Research Network

- Membership approximately 50 (developing regional chapters).
- Members from a broad PHC background.
- Regular HEARNet Advisory Group meetings.
- HEARNet Newsletters and resource sheets.
- HEARNet promotion – membership application mail out; promotion at meetings/conferences.
- HEARNet Review Committee – project assessment, projects badged, offered to members.

2. Annual Regional PHC Research Conference - 15th-16th November

- Program finalised (local and interstate key note speakers).
- Invitations/call for papers advertised – program support for poster/paper development.
- Local PHC researchers encouraged to present.
- Prizes for best paper/poster by a new presenter.

3. EBP Workshops

- GP Academic attended UQ EBP workshop.
- Needs assessment for EBP workshops completed & workshops offered to all Divisions.
- One Train the Trainer EBP workshop undertaken in Tamworth (positive evaluations).
- Other workshops planned (i.e. combined Division workshop to be held in 2002).

4. Multidisciplinary Work

- 17 collaborative grant applications submitted in 2002.
- Field trip to AMSs in area to discuss research/education needs.
- Multidisciplinary Advisory Group meeting 3 monthly.
- Nurses, Dietitian & GPs involved in Discipline research projects.

5. Web-based Modules

- 3 Paediatric modules developed (Asthma; Eating Disorders; ADD).
- Modules to be available as a Paediatric Diploma for GPs and rolled out to other disciplines.
- Need flexible delivery hence the need for Blackboard training.

6. Individual & Group Support

- Ethics applications; Registrar statistics & research training; fortnightly research meetings (evaluated); Discipline staff and PhD student support; ad hoc stakeholder support and formal workshops; Bursary applicant support; Individual and group research support.

Difficulties

- Stakeholder expectations of funding.
- Field trips required to raise stakeholder interest.
- Collaborative grant process – limited PHC support / understanding in grant land.
- Stakeholder expectations raised from collaborative