

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM 2002

Education

- Monthly workshops available for GPs, division staff, community and allied health and commenced in July 2002.
- Tailored workshops as requested by Divisions for particular projects
- Attended EBM teach-the-teacher workshop in Queensland
- EBM workshops developed and delivery commenced
- Individual EBM general practice visits commenced
- Mentoring GPs and allied health professionals and developing NHMRC Scholarship applications and other grant applications
- Forming a collaborative seminar series with the RACGP and PHCRED
- Providing Distance Education in General Practice Research and Evaluation
- Supervising Phd and Research Masters students
- Supervising undergraduate medical students general practice research projects

Networking

Publicized PHCRED - brochures, Web page

Revisited all Divisions and updated needs analysis

Publicized PHCRED to other primary care organizations

Formed links with other research bodies both within the University of Western Australia and outside eg the Institute of Child Health Research, RACGP research unit. - Advisory committees and ongoing research collaborations

Collaborative research

Collaborations have been developed with the RACGP, Department of Public Health UWA, Department of Surgery UWA, Oncology Department Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Social and Public Health Research Centre for International Health at Curtin University, and an international collaboration with Manitoba University.

Western Australian Sentinel Practice Network (WASP)

- Submitted a proposal for funding to expand the computerized research network to 20 practices throughout WA
- Encouraging progress through Divisions - so far three Divisions are involved
- Use of the WASP network as a basis to establish a broader general practice research network not limited to computer data collection. This is a collaborative project with the Divisions, RACGP and CUCRH.

Issues

- Lack of availability of research funding for beginner researchers - we have several keen GPs we are mentoring both in urban and rural areas but no funds to support them
- Difficulty in recruiting high quality staff for part-time positions - the research fellow employed to support/train Divisional staff and primary care providers was offered a good full-time job elsewhere and left - this meant that we lost momentum which we will have to rebuild when we employ someone new in this position. This position is the mechanism we are using to attempt to balance the needs of the grass roots development of research skills with the other sections of the our PHCRED strategy which are aiming to deliver high quality research outcomes and train future NHMRC researchers.