

2019 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR SPIRITUAL CARE PRACTITIONERS: EDUCATION AND SUPERVISION

Second Wednesday of each month, 9.30am start, from March 2019 – Nov 2019...with a break in July

2019 Date	Venue	Speaker(s) / Roles	Topic
MARCH 13th	Royal Melbourne Hospital	Professor Lynn Gillam, Academic Director of the Children's Bioethics Centre at RCH and Professor in Health Ethics at Melbourne University	Ethical Decision making
APRIL 10th	Repat	Dr Alan Gijsbers, specialist physician in Addiction Medicine and Head of the Addiction Medicine Service at the Royal Melbourne Hospital	Spiritual Care for people with addiction
MAY 8th	Royal Children's Hospital	Kären Lunney, Manager of Pastoral Care at Bendigo Health	What's in a name? <i>What is our understanding of a name and what does it say about our work?</i>
JUNE 12th	Mercy Hospital Werribee	Dr Peter Bentley, Coordinator of Formation Studies at WellSpring Centre	Shame and guilt in human emotional development
** JULY BREAK **			
AUGUST 14th	Barwon Health (St Mary's Library, Cnr Myers and Bellarine Street)	Russell Armstrong, Spiritual Care Worker, Palliative Care, Barwon Health Jessica Connor Kennedy, Spiritual Care Coordinator & Cancer Services, Barwon Health	Dignity in Care
SEPTEMBER 11th ANZACPE CONFERENCE 4 th	Caulfield Hospital	Bhakta Dasa, Interfaith Director and Communications Officer, International Society for Krishna Consciousness (Hindu) Annie Whitlocke, on call lay Buddhist Chaplain (Buddhism) Rabbi Gabbi-Sar-Shalom, Pastoral and Spiritual Care Coordinator, Caulfield Hospital (Jewish)	Multifaith Panel - Rituals in Death and Dying in different faith traditions
OCTOBER 9th	Repat	Christine Hennequin, Manager Support and Development, Spiritual Health Victoria	Current thinking in data collection and recoding in spiritual care.
NOVEMBER 13th	Baptcare Camberwell	Dr Eleanor Flynn, retired from the medical school at Melbourne University in January 2109 having taught ethics and communication	A medical perspective on spiritual care as part of whole person care of patients and family members
DECEMBER 11th	TBC	End Of Year Gathering	End of Year Gathering

TOPIC BLURBS and PRESENTER BIOS

Wednesday March 13 2018

TOPIC: Ethical Decision Making

This will be an interactive discussion session. Lynn will begin by introducing some key concepts for practical ethical thinking, and then facilitate a discussion of an ethically challenging case with attendees.

Lynn Gillam is an experienced clinical ethicist, originally trained in philosophy (MA, 1988, Oxon) and bioethics (PhD, Monash, 2000). Lynn is the Academic Director of the Children's Bioethics Centre at the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne. She is also Professor in Health Ethics at the University of Melbourne, in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health.

Lynn works in clinical ethics case consultation at RCH, and has been involved in over 200 ethics consultations over the past 12 years. At RCH she also provides policy advice and leads research into a range of issues in paediatric clinical ethics - including end of life decision-making, management of disorders of sex development, information-giving to children, and parental refusal of treatment.

At the University, she teaches ethics in the university's MD course, and supervises research students. She is the Chair of the University's Human Research Ethics Committee. Lynn is a member of a number of state and federal advisory bodies, including the Victorian Independent Medical Advisory Committee on Medicinal Cannabis and the NHMRC Clinical Ethics Working Group.

Wednesday April 10 2018

TOPIC: Spiritual Care for people with addiction

Associate Professor Alan Gijbers MBBS (Melbourne), FRACP, FACHAM, DTM&H (London), PGDip Epi (Melbourne).

Alan is a specialist physician in Addiction Medicine. He is the Head of the Addiction Medicine Service at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and the Medical Director of the Substance Withdrawal Unit at the Melbourne Clinic Richmond. He is an honorary clinical associate professor at the University of Melbourne. He has previously worked as a general physician at the prestigious Christian Medical College and Hospital Vellore, South India, and on return at St Vincent's Hospital, the Preston and Northcote Community Hospital, the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital and the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service. He started his addiction medicine career at St Vincent's Hospital, Turning Point and the Epworth Hospital. He has a particular interest in studying neuroscience and theology and the philosophy of the self, and spirituality, topics which underpin his approach to addiction care. Most recently he has won an award for clinical teaching in the Master of Psychiatry course 2017 at the University of Melbourne.

Wednesday May 8 2018

TOPIC: What's in a name?

What is our understanding of a name and what does it say about our work?

The session will look at Shakespeare's question of "What's in a name?" – Do "chaplains" smell as sweet as "Spiritual Care Practitioners"? In mid-2017, Kāren started asking around different Victorian hospitals as to what their department was called (Spiritual and/or Pastoral Care), and what the staff/ volunteers in that department are called (Chaplains? Practitioners? Workers?) and does that makes a difference to how patients, staff and families view the service. This workshop will present the results of the "fact & opinion-finding" exercise (unstructured research) as well as looking at other material on the subject. It won't tell you what the "best" name is, but rather encourage you to explore the subject for your own setting.

Kāren Lunney is the Manager of Pastoral Care at Bendigo Health. She has been in the role since 2013 and during her time in the role she has focussed on best practice and quality improvement for a team of predominately volunteer chaplains. Karen's approach to Pastoral Care Management is based in the questions of: Why do we do it this way, how do others do this, and how can we learn from them to make the best fit for our pastoral care department in a regional hospital with a volunteer chaplaincy team?

Wednesday June 12 2018

TOPIC: Shame and guilt in human emotional development

Emotions such as shame and guilt can operate as guardians and supporters of the soul or its most destructive enemy.

This workshop explores the role emotions, such as shame and guilt, play in alerting us to situations that threaten or affirm our wellbeing. These emotions will be examined to identify what are their unique contributions to deepening our self-awareness of their influence on our responses to life.

Rev Dr Peter Bentley- Dip Eng, Grad Dip Ed, BTh, MA, PhD

Peter is married with three adult daughters. After ministering as an ordained minister in a couple of parishes, Peter was appointed Director of the WellSpring Spirituality Centre in 2003. Peter has completed a Master of Arts Degree looking at the use of the Arts in association with spiritual direction in a Creative Retreat context, and a PhD thesis examining spiritual direction formation and a particular approach to formational learning. He currently lectures in postgraduate spiritual direction formation programs through the University of Divinity, Melbourne. He also presents workshops and retreats in Contemplative Practices and the Enneagram. Peter has served as President of the Australian Ecumenical Council for Spiritual Direction and been a member of the Council of Christians and Jews. He has a keen interest in spiritual formation across a range of spiritual and cultural perspectives.

***** JULY BREAK *****

Wednesday August 14 2018

TOPIC: Dignity in Care

"...the very essence of who we are and our perceived place in this world is soluble within patienthood... How we see patients or, more specifically, how patients perceive themselves to be seen can influence their sense of dignity. We should think of ourselves as mirrors, where patients seek some positive reflection or affirmation of self." ~ Harvey Chochinov

Respect and dignity go hand in hand with the field of spiritual health. We invite you to this presentation to reflect upon dignity in relationship to self as practitioner and in relation to patients. We will present on studies into dignity in health settings, a conceptual model of dignity and outline the process and practicalities of Dignity Therapy (DT).

Dignity Therapy is a well-researched psychotherapeutic method. Participation in DT has been reported by patients to be helpful including to increase sense of dignity and to address suffering. DT is conducted by trained therapists and invites individuals with life-limiting illnesses to reflect on matters of importance to them. The end result is legacy document that the patient can share with people close to them. DT is offered by Spiritual Care Workers at Barwon Health, facilitated by involvement of a highly trained and well-supported group of DT volunteers. Our DT program has attracted awards including from the Minister for Health.

Attendees will:

- *Explore ways to enhance and support a person's experience of dignity*
- *Learn how the model of dignity can inform care in general and the research behind this*
- *Understand how to become a Dignity Therapist and practicalities for organisations wanting to offer this program*

Russell Armstrong – Spiritual Care Worker, Supportive Care Team - Palliative Care, Barwon Health

Having worked with oncology and palliative care patients at Barwon Health in Geelong for eleven years Russell has seen first-hand the positive benefits that can flow from considerations of dignity in care. Russell introduced Dignity Therapy to Barwon Health in 2012 after training with its Canadian founder Dr Harvey Chochinov. Previously Russell worked as a school chaplain, youth-worker, and teacher. Russell attends to his spiritual health through engagement in the Uniting Church, encountering God in the patients he meets, and a personal passion for genealogy that complements his professional interest in legacy.

Jessica Connor Kennedy - Spiritual Care, University Hospital Geelong - Coordinator & Cancer Services, Barwon Health

Jessica has been trained to facilitate Dignity Therapy as a part of her Spiritual Care role. This training has had flow on effects to the rest of her work which includes 1:1 and group sessions for patients and hospital staff. Jess started her career as an agricultural scientist which included facilitating support for farmer well-being, then worked in outdoor education and school chaplaincy combined with facilitating community engagement. Jess then joined Barwon Health in 2015, initially as Consumer Engagement Manager. Some of Jess' spiritual supports include Aikido, mindfulness, art, retreats and horses.

Wednesday September 4 2018

TOPIC: Multifaith Panel – Rituals in Death and Dying in different faith traditions

Rabbi Gabbi Sar-Shalom is a Universalist Rabbi, working as the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Coordinator at Caulfield Hospital and at ARK Centre (Synagogue) with an interest in drumming, interfaith encounters, nature walks, Re-Evaluation Counselling and the Divine Feminine. She is completing a Graduate Certificate in Supervision of Pastoral Care in 2018.

Rev. Bhakta Dasa (Albert Lange) is a Minister of Religion for the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) serving the Vaisnava Hindu Community. He has studied and practiced the ancient Vedic spiritual teachings of India from his mentors in India, Australia and the USA for the last 38 years. He is the Communications and Interfaith Director for ISKCON Australia.

He represents the Hare Krishna Movement on the Hindu Council of Australia (HCA) and the Hindu Organisations Temples and Associations (HOTA). Representing Hinduism in Victoria, Bhakta is an executive member of the Faith Community Council of Victoria (FCCV) and participates in a number of Interfaith Community groups around Melbourne. Bhakta is a Spiritual Care Practitioner (chaplain) again for the Hindu Community in Victoria ministering in hospitals, refugee centres and prisons. People of all walks of life have learnt to Meditate from Bhakta over the last 30 years. He teaches ancient Vedic meditation techniques on an individual basis from his home/office as well as online.

Annie Whitlocke is an on call lay Buddhist Chaplain for acute hospitals for people who have died or are dying. She is also a volunteer at Peter Mac, Moorabbin for inpatients and Chemo day unit and visits the dialysis unit at Moorabbin Hospital. This can take the form of spiritual care visit, music therapy or hand and foot massage, it always depends on the person in hospital. Annie is associated with Advanced Care Department at Monash Health and regularly give talks on this subject to the community. Annie is also an End of Life advocate also known as a Death Doula and has completed several end of life courses in this field. She completed one unit of CPE in 2013.

Wednesday October 9 2018

TOPIC: “Current thinking in data collection and recoding in spiritual care”.

Charting and documenting spiritual care in medical records is a topic of ongoing interest, especially with the transition to electronic medical records in many Australian health services. Christine will discuss current practice, updated Spiritual Health guidelines and perspectives on current research from a workshop that she attended in Switzerland in January 2019.

Christine Hennequin has worked both as a spiritual care practitioner and a manager for around 14 years in public hospitals. Other roles have included coordinating bereavement support, projects and consumer participation. Her qualifications include Pastoral Care, Social Sciences, Management and Project Management. Since joining Spiritual Health Victoria in October 2009, she has managed several projects including developing spiritual care in rural and regional areas, developing and evaluating frameworks and guidelines including a minimum dataset for documenting spiritual care. Her work focuses on quality improvement and developing best practice models of spiritual care.

Wednesday November 13 2018

TOPIC: A medical perspective on spiritual care as part of whole person care of patients and family members

This session will start with a presentation by Dr Flynn on her perspective of the benefits of spiritual care for patients and families, particularly in Palliative and Aged Care and then move to an interactive session to discuss how spiritual care workers can best interact with medical staff in hospitals and health services for the benefit of patients and families.

Dr Eleanor Flynn has a medical degree from the University of Melbourne, a bachelor of education from LaTrobe University and a master of theology from the University of Divinity. She is retiring from the medical school at Melbourne University in January 2109 having taught ethics and communication and coordinated the aged care module for 19 years. From 1999 till 2016 she was also a senior palliative care specialist at St Vincent’s and Royal Melbourne. Since 2018 she has been a co-opted member of the board of Spiritual Health Victoria. She is interested in the interactions of spirituality and health, especially in relation to end of life issues, death and bereavement. She will be teaching a subject at the University of Divinity with Dr Claire Renkin in second semester 2019 entitled “Death, Dying and Grief: Through the Lens of Art and Spirituality”