

14 November 2016

The Australian College of Nursing Welcomes Research into Nurse Bullying

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) is pleased to hear the announcement of a four year study by James Cook University Researcher Peter Hartin that examines the incidence of bullying in the nursing profession.

Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward, CEO of ACN, says the research should be welcomed.

“Bullying must be prevented to help ensure the best possible outcomes for nurses, patients, care recipients and the community. No form of bullying or harassment is acceptable in any workplace, let alone in a demanding and time critical environment such as health care and where patients’ care is paramount.”

“ACN looks forward to the results of the proposed study with a view to ensuring nurses can work to their full potential and not be burdened by workplace bullying.”

In April 2016, ACN released a position paper titled *Bullying in the Workplace*, which condemned the occurrence of bullying in health and aged care workplaces.

Adjunct Professor Ward says, “Bullying in the work place can and should be stopped. Nurses must support each other. Nurse leaders play a vital role in the prevention of bullying through the demonstration of a clear commitment to the elimination of workplace bullying and visibly supporting an open culture in which unacceptable behaviours are addressed immediately.”

To view ACN’s position statement on *Bullying in the Workplace* click [here](#).

Ends _____

For interviews, please contact Narelle Barrie, Executive Assistant to CEO on 02 6283 3459, 0450 908 920 or email narelle.barrie@acn.edu.au

For more information, please contact Carolyn Stapleton, Manager – Policy and Advocacy on 0448 017 194 or email carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au



Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward, CEO of ACN.



Australian
College of
Nursing

Advancing nurse leadership

Notes to the Editors:

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) is the national professional organisation for all nurse leaders and its aim is to ensure that the Australian community receives quality nursing care now and in the future. ACN is a membership organisation with members in all states and territories, health care settings and nursing specialties. ACN is also the Australian member of the International Council of Nurses headquartered in Geneva.

ACN, an organisation not afraid to intelligently challenge industry issues affecting the nursing profession or Australia's health care, is a well-connected and educated national body that drives change with people of influence to enhance the delivery of health services to the Australian community. ACN advances the skills and expertise of nurses to provide leadership in their contribution to the policy, practice and delivery of health care.

A membership organisation with members in all states and territories, health care settings and nursing specialities, ACN's membership includes many nurses in roles of influence, including senior nurses, organisational leaders, academics and researchers.

What is the role of ACN to media?

- ACN provides trusted, well supported information about Australia's health care system, the delivery of health care, nursing leadership and the nursing profession.
- ACN has a number of media-savvy spokespeople within the organisation who can comment on Australia's health care system, the delivery of health care, nursing leadership and the nursing profession.
- ACN offers media with an alternative voice to that of an industrial relations perspective.
- ACN is in-the-know and can comment on health care matters of interest.
- ACN can respond to media requests in a timely manner and with subject/clinical expert's available on-hand for further discussion.
- ACN regularly responds to government updates pertaining to Australia's health care system.

What role does ACN play?

ACN is here to act and deliver results as agents of change. They are working towards a brighter future through advancing nurse leadership to enhance the delivery of health care to all. The organisation provides nurse leaders with access to relevant information, support and education that will enhance Australia's reputation on the world stage.

Social media channels:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acnursing>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/acn_tweet

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-college-of-nursing>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/acn_nursing