**Bridging the Knowledge Gap:**

*A Regional Cancer Workforce Initiative*

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In order to bridge the knowledge gap in cancer care and build the capacity of the general nursing workforce, the Grampians Integrated Cancer Service (GICS) and Centre for Education and Training (CET) at Ballarat Health Services, have collaborated to develop a Clinical Nurse Educator Oncology position.

Integrated care, to those affected by cancer, involves all members of the multidisciplinary team, both specialist cancer and non-cancer specialist health care professionals.

A 12 month regional education calendar was developed in 2015 based on identified needs from staff in the Grampians region.

So far:
- 4 nursing staff have undertaken post graduate studies in Clinical Cancer Nursing
- In-service and simulation sessions have been delivered at Ballarat Health Services and the Grampians Region
- 1115 staff have attended some form of continuous professional development activity in cancer

The goal for 2016 is to continue to provide high quality evidenced based and accessible education for all health care professionals in the Grampians region.

Overall, participant feedback on the education provided has been positive and assisted towards the development of a regional education calendar for 2016.

Introduction to Cancer Study Day: “Better understanding of my role on wards when caring for patients and has also increase my interest in working in the area” Participant

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**Education Delivered Outside Ballarat**

- Charlton
- Daylesford
- Hopetoun
- Horsham
- Melton
- Nhill
- St Arnaud
- Stawell
- Warracknabeal

**High Acuity Nursing Module Accessing CVADs**

- Not Confident
- Some Confidence
- Confident
- Exceptionally Confident
- No response

**Numbers of Participants:**

- ADAC Workshops
- ADAC Facilitator Training
- In-service education
- Simulation
- Study days
- Twilight Education
- Workshops
- Presentations

No of Participants: 2015 - March 2016