



CI-SCaT- CI-SCaT- Supporting Oncology Nurses through an innovative web based resource

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In order to deliver optimal treatment to cancer patients, nurses need to have a comprehensive understanding of contemporary literature, key evidence, and internationally acceptable standards. The Cancer Institute NSW Standard Cancer Treatments Program (CI-SCaT), a single web based Australian repository of standardised, evidence based cancer treatment protocols, is a uniquely holistic resource that provides nurses with comprehensive, current, and relevant protocols that they can use in their local units at no cost to the user.

In order to address the accuracy and currency of the content, reference groups of practising clinicians are established to discuss the validity, reliability, and transferability of the information to the clinical environment. The CI-SCaT Nurses Reference Group, established 3 years ago, has a current membership of 120 nurses with clinical expertise in medical oncology, radiation oncology, haematology, and palliative care. The group utilises a network model of governance driven by peer trust, voluntary participation, and professional commitment.

Over 90 members attended the recent 3rd Annual Nurses Reference Group Workshop, where 90 nursing policy and procedures were reviewed. The potential benefits for nurses standardising their information in a single repository such as CI-SCaT are multiple – allowing equity of access, confirming that they are practising within safe, current and valid clinical guidelines and reducing unnecessary duplication. It is hoped that these benefits will ultimately lead to a more streamlined patient journey and, therefore, improved patient outcomes.

The purpose of this presentation is to demonstrate how CI-SCaT can support nurses in clinical decision making through safe application and effective management protocols.