

# Media Release



Tuesday 29 September 2015

## Emergency & aged care nurses collaborate to improve care for the elderly

Today, HESTA announced CEDRiC (Care Coordination through Emergency Department, Residential Aged Care and Primary Health Collaboration) — as a Team Innovation Award finalist in the 2015 HESTA Australian Nursing Awards.

Through an innovative partnership between Nambour General Hospital, Sundale's residential aged-care services, and the University of the Sunshine Coast — the team created a new model of care for the elderly.

This project aims to strengthen the capacity of the residential aged care sector to deliver care; to improve care for older adults in hospital; and to improve interaction between the sectors.

The multi-disciplinary team consists of emergency department nurses and doctors, a nurse practitioner candidate, clinical nurse and university staff who all collaborate to achieve a unique model of service delivery for people in residential aged care experiencing acute illness.

CEDRiC Team Leader and University of the Sunshine Coast professor, Marianne Wallis said "Preventing falls and harm from falls is a high priority within the hospital, the new model of care focuses on the elderly who either experience, or are at risk from an episode of acute illness that may result in a fall.

"In the residential aged care facility, the nurse practitioner candidate liaises with GPs to provide advanced nursing interventions, as well as staff training and education — reducing the need for residents to be transferred to hospital.

"If a resident does require hospital treatment, the nurse practitioner candidate interacts directly with the specialist nurse in the emergency department to ensure the person's condition is fully understood. Then the hospital gerontology nurse is responsible for coordinating the care of the patient through the emergency department."

HESTA Australian Nursing Awards finalists are in the running for a share of a \$30,000 in prizes, from proud awards sponsor **ME**.

The Team Innovation winner will receive a \$10,000 development grant. The Nurse of the Year and Outstanding Graduate Award winners will each receive a \$5,000 **ME** EveryDay transaction account and \$5,000 towards further education.

**ME** CEO, Jamie McPhee, said, "We're delighted to give these outstanding individuals the opportunity to develop their careers, while also supporting innovative health programs which benefit the entire sector and community."

Winners will be announced at the HESTA Australian Nursing Awards dinner on Thursday, 15 October in Brisbane.

*The 2015 HESTA Australian Nursing Awards is a HESTA initiative, run in partnership with the Australian College of Nursing (ACN) and proudly sponsored by the bank owned by industry super funds, **ME**.*

For more information about the awards visit [hestaawards.com.au](http://hestaawards.com.au)

Follow the Twitter conversation [@HESTANurseAwdz](https://twitter.com/HESTANurseAwdz)

### Media contact

Luisa Saccotelli 0400 149 901 or Aileen Muldoon 0419 112 503.