



Telephone and Internet Counselling Interest Group

UPDATE

24 February 2005

In this edition:

1. **Professor Gerhard Andersson** at the APS conference. 28 Sept – 2 Oct 2005. – Will the internet change the way we provide Psychological Therapy?
2. **OzDoctor** - News on the changes to General Practice as a result of the e-health reform.
3. **Healthconnect** – A federal government initiative to provide health records electronically. E-health building blocks of Australia
4. **Mission Australia** Helplines Discontinued.
5. The International **Trade Event and Conference for eHealth**, Telemedicine and Health ICT – Luxembourg. April 2 – 6 2005
6. **theMHS Conference**. 15 Annual Mental Health Services Conference.
Call for Abstracts www.themhs.org
7. **The Australian** - \$18 Million towards e-health.

1) **Professor Gerhard Andersson, Linköping University, Sweden**

Will the Internet change the way we provide psychological therapy? Researchers who study the effects of cognitive-behavioural therapy have a longstanding tradition of exploring self-help approaches. However, an early observation was that effective delivery of self-help required some kind of guidance, often in the form of telephone support.

Since the advent of the Internet, and its spread into the daily life of patients and clinicians, the notion that the Internet might be used to deliver minimal contact therapy interventions has been researched, and the results are difficult to ignore as they show very promising outcomes. More info: www.apsconference.com.au

2) **OZ Doctor: The cost of Health (23-Feb-2005)**

THE multi-million-dollar revolution in e-health will add an extra 7.5 hours to a GP's working week, as they check and type information into electronic patient records, the General Practice Computing Group has warned. More info: www.australiandoctor.com.au/articles/BC/0C02CFBC.asp

3) **HealthConnect** is a network of electronic health records that aims to improve the flow of information across the Australian health sector. It involves the electronic collection, storage and exchange of consumer health information via a secure network and within strict privacy safeguards.

Under HealthConnect, health-related information will be collected at the point of care, such as at a hospital or a doctor's surgery. It will be documented in a standard electronic format and stored as part of a secure network. This information may then be retrieved online when needed or be exchanged between authorised health care providers - but only with the consent of the consumer. More Info: www.healthconnect.gov.au

4) **Mission Australia** has recently announced the closure of their Mission Australia Helplines. This is the 1300 886 899 helpline previously known as the Start Over line. Mission Australia other helpline service – The Victims Support line will be provided by the NSW Attorney General's Department as of early 2005.

5) The International **Trade Event and Conference for eHealth**, Telemedicine and Health ICT – Luxemburg. April 2 – 6 2005 to find out more www.medetel.lu

6) **The Mental Health Services**. 15th Annual Conference organized by the Federal Department of Health and Ageing.

Title: Dancing to the beat of a different Drum.

Venue: Adelaide Convention Centre South Australia 30 Aug – 2 Sept.

Date: 30 Aug – 2 Sep

Details: www.themhs.org

7) **The Australian** – News Article - \$18 million dollars to Central e-health body

More Info:

http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,5744,12106623%255E23289,00.html

We welcome any feedback regarding this UPDATE, which you can provide by replying to this e-mail.

Kind Regards
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Group Convener

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