

Health Education Collaborative Newsletter

A message from the CEO



*Bruce Greaves
CEO/Director*

Welcome to issue 3

What trying times we are in at present with the Covid-19 virus affecting the world in ways that have not been seen since WW2. Border are being closed, airlines are not flying, supermarket shelves are being stripped bare by panic buying, not to mention the stress that the health care system is being put under. I would like to remind everyone in the health sector that this is what we are trained to do; to manage the health of the nation and to repond to adverse changes and challenges such as the covid-19 virus pandemic.

For many health workers newer to the system this will be very unfamiliar to them and they will be relying on the knowledge and experience of those that have worked through similar events such as the SARS pandemic in 2003 where we, as a health care team worked and supported each other through the crisis.

Ongoing training and education is vital to the management of future events like what we are facing at present. It is not as simple as teaching someone how to put on personal protective equipment and put signs on the door. It is a holistic approach involving infection control, disease management, communication on multiple levels, self care and disaster management principles and practice on a micro and macro scale. These are areas not taught as a interconnected package in undergraduate training.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) offer free courses which address these areas. Click on the link below to view the current COVID-19 course on infection prevention and control.

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-emergencies/coronavirus-covid-19/training-courses>

The HEC team wish all in the health sector bearing the brunt of the COVID-19 virus a safe and timely resolution to the situation we are currently in.

Bruce Greaves CEO/Director
Health Education Collaborative

Course Development

New partnerships and course releases

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, HEC in conjunction with our collaborative partners have made the decision postpone the release of the programs we have developed.

We are disappointed that we have had to take this action as we were so excited with the new programs that we were about to release but, it's the right thing to do at this time.

From negatives come positives and we will be making some great announcements in the coming issues on courses, career pathways and new collaborative partnerships.

Although we are all extremely busy at present with the pandemic, don't forget to think post COVID-19. What direction do you want to take in your career pathway? What area would you like to study and become more knowledgeable and skilled in to support your current role? This is a good time to reflect on and consider your ongoing education needs and plan for the future.



Clinical Update



Margaret Villella
Executive Director
and Director of
Education

Clinical Question/Rhythm

Last month I asked if you could identify this rhythm and I would provide the answer this month.



My systematic interpretation of this rhythm is: rhythm is slightly irregular, rate is 70 bpm, P waves are present however, some are peaked, some are inverted and one rounded, PR interval varies with different P waves, QRS duration is normal.

Answer: Wandering atrial pacemaker (WAP).

See how you go with this one!



Article of interest.

Covid-19 has seen us having to adapt the way we interact with patients and conduct consultations. To protect ourselves and other patients, phone and video consultations are being utilised. I came across this very interesting article in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) which may be of interest to some of you who are conducting phone and video consultations.

<https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/368/bmj.m1182.full.pdf>.

For those of you working in a critical care area, you may find this WHO Covid-19 course useful (I am currently completing it).

<https://openwho.org/courses/severe-acute-respiratory-infection>

Now more than ever we need to ensure we are using our clinical assessment skills to systematically assess patients to identify early warning signs of clinical deterioration.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Course in Clinical Assessment or visit our Web site www.healthec.com.au

In the Chat Room



Unfortunately, our guest for “in the chat room” for this month was unable to be interviewed due to her workload with the current COVID-19 crisis. We have secured some time to interview her for next month’s issue.

Next Issue: April 2020



Contact us:

Marg: 0419 939 458 or Bruce: 0444 547 036

Web page: <http://www.healthec.com.au/>