“National Registration The What, the when & the how: A time for nurses to stay informed”

Elisabeth Coyne Lecturer  Samara Russell Millie Fotescue 3rd year student nurses

School of Nursing and Midwifery Logan Campus Griffith University, University Drive Meadowbrook Queensland, 4131

In July 2006, the Council of Australian Governments agreed to establish a single national registration scheme for health professionals and at its meeting in March 2008, COAG agreed to establish the scheme by 1 July 2010 (Intergovernmental Agreement, 2008). The establishment of this scheme presents nurses with an exciting opportunity to express their opinions about national registration and the principles it should underpin (Cook, 2007).

Nurses and midwives make up more than half of the total health workforce; making it essential nurses' play an active role in the design and implementation of national registration (White, 2007; Linsell & Kiejda, 2009). The purpose of this research is to make available the information that nurses require to make informative judgments on the current changes and to be active participants in the framing of their future (White, 2007).

The research poster delivers information on six key issues including; what is national registration & why do we need it, who will national registration affect, how will it affect nurses & midwives, the commencement date, the nursing & midwifery board of Australia & quick FAQ’s. The poster aims at delivering facts in an informative non-biased manner.

National registration is the optimal method of achieving national consistency for nursing practices and standards, through abolishing the individual state and territory boards and replacing it with a single national board (Clark, 2006; Carrigan, 2008; Allen, 2009). It will facilitate flexibility, responsiveness, sustainability and mobility of nurses (Intergovernmental Agreement, 2008). Most importantly, National regulation is about protection of the public and as nurses we must join the health care consumers and have a say in how best we can achieve this (White, 2007; Cook, 2007).