

# ACP education for nursing staff

**What:** Including ACP education in clinical update days for nursing staff, ie, the days when nurses come together to do yearly updates on fire, CPR, etc.

**Why/rationale:** To educate nursing staff about ACP using existing education structures, over a 12-month period. The DHB used this approach for update days run by the following specialties:

- medical
- surgical
- oncology/haematology
- rural.

**Who:** Canterbury DHB

## Benefits/value added:

- All nursing staff access ACP education over a defined period.
- ACP messaging is consistent.
- Maximising of opportunity to get 'bang for buck' with education time.

## Risks/challenges:

Significant staff commitment in delivering the sessions 2–3 times per month per speciality for the whole year.

## Steps: How this looked on the ground

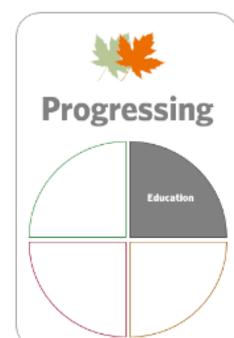
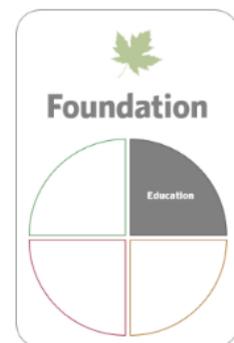
### Foundation

1. Liaised with the nurse educators running the training/update days to request a slot for ACP.
2. Created a 'master' PowerPoint presentation that:
  - a. introduced the concepts of ACP
  - b. outlined the legalities
  - c. outlined local processes
  - d. encouraged staff to consider the relevance of ACP to their workplace and patient group.

*The presentation can be supplemented by relevant case studies for the different specialties.*

### Progressing

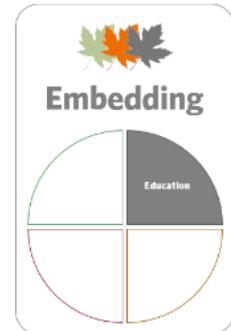
1. Delivered sessions across the 12-month period.
2. Included slides promoting level 1 e-learning and advertise any upcoming national ACP training (level 1a and level 2).



## ***Embedding***

Running update sessions, ie, delivering an ACP update to the same group of nurses 18 months on. This includes a presentation featuring:

- a recap of ACP and legalities
- what's new (such as new national guide, updated IT, regional consistency in the New Year, etc)
- facilitated discussions of shared experiences
- the role of nurses in ACP (brainstorming things like: where is a plan found on the system? Whose role it to identify a plan? How do they make it visible to their colleagues?).



## **Impact:**

Of patients admitted to Christchurch Public Hospital with advance care plans, 81% of those plans are identified by clinical staff without prompting from the ACP facilitator.

## **Future opportunities:**

A similar process has also been used to deliver ACP education at:

- staff orientation
- nurse entry to practice (NetP) nursing group
- resident medical officer education sessions
- allied health education sessions.

## **Similar examples from others:**

[ACP integration into undergraduate medical training \(Minnesota example\)](#)