

HOW ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER... ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS TO PROMOTE QUM



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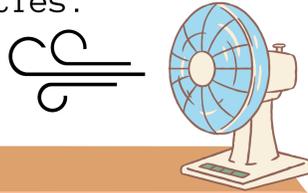
Public Hospital Bruce

BACKGROUND

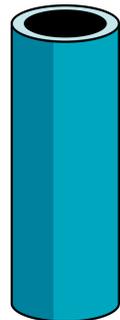
In 2018 our department presented an event for



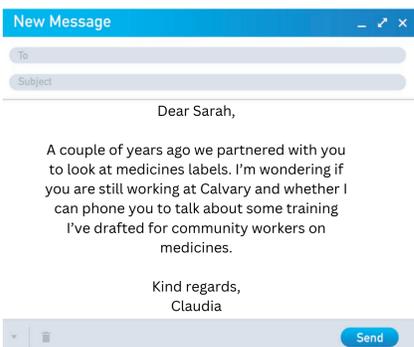
One attendee was an employee of HCCA and this led to a conversation around improving quality use of medicines (QUM) in our communities.



As a result of this discussion, we provided HCCA with some educational materials - medications labelled in different ways - which they used in a consumer talk about health literacy.



In 2021, another HCCA employee developed a talk called "Managing your Medicines". This talk was aimed at understanding of medicines use with community workers. On the recommendation of the previous employee, they got in touch with us to see if we could assist in any way.



Through these talks, HCCA have also identified the huge gap in education for disability/community workers around medicines and are working to address this with more formalised training. Our department will continue to provide advice as requested.



And... as one thing continues to lead to another, an attendee at one of the presentations was a representative of Asthma Australia. We are now working together on a project in our Emergency Department.



CONCLUSION

PHARMACY DEPARTMENTS SHOULD CONSIDER PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS TO DELIVER QUALITY USE OF MEDICINES MESSAGES.

- What is considered a medicine?
- Active ingredients and brand names
- Generic medications
- Medicines information resources and reading CMI's

- Understanding the PBS and medicines safety net
- Questions to ask about your medicines
- Remember to take your medicines and dose administration aids
- Medicine costs and how to save money on medicines