

Australian Resource Centre for Hospital Innovations: putting people in touch with each other

Charmaine Weeks, Australian Resource Centre for Hospital Innovations

The Australian Resource Centre for Hospital Innovations (ARCHI) is a Commonwealth-funded program that facilitates the implementation of effective innovations in clinical management in and around hospitals.

ARCHI provides through its e-library complementary access to “grey” (unpublished) literature on innovations projects. With over 750 resources, clinicians, clinical managers, health executives and policy makers throughout Australia, and internationally, regularly access the ARCHI website (www.archi.net.au) as part of their daily work. Nearly one third of ARCHI users work in rural and remote Australia.

ARCHI also facilitates communication among its users, irrespective of distance through:

- Net News, a fortnightly e-bulletin that showcases the latest innovations projects (subscribe by emailing admin@archi.net.au)
- email discussion forums on:
 - care of older persons
 - patient safety
 - emergency demand
 - general practice liaison officers
 - bed management
 - clinical benchmarking in hospitals
- national inquiry service where satellite officers in each state receive requests by email, telephone and in person and utilise their national networks to locate appropriate information and resources for inquirers
- ARCHI Toolkit Seminars, run monthly in capital and regional centres throughout Australia and attract audiences of up to 200 people.

Other ARCHI services include health jobs with a post-a-job facility (in partnership with Monster.com), book reviews (in partnership with the Australian Institute of Management) and directories of vendors and suppliers and health consultants.

