

A REVIEW OF CURRENT PRINTED CONTINENCE RESOURCES

Hypothesis / aims of study

The Continence Foundation of Australia subcontracted this Centre to conduct a clinical review of selected Australian National Continence Management Strategy printed information products, encompassing:

Reviewing clinical content;
 Suggestions for updating information in the resources;
 Suggestions for consistency with current best practice; and
 Eliminating duplication across resources.

Study design, materials and methods

Forty five resources were included in the review, grouped into three categories:

The Standard Series (15 Continence Foundation of Australia brochures and 15 Australian Department of Health and Ageing continence fact sheets);

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Series (12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) brochures; and 'Other Products' (Bladder Management Problems Self Assessment Checklist, 1 in 3 booklet and magnet, and Continence Speakers Kit).

Two methods for clinical review were employed: Clinical Review Workshop for simple resources, and Individual Clinical Review for more complex resources.

English only versions of resources were reviewed in terms of content and format only, using a checklist developed from previously used criteria: Currency and accuracy, content, relevance, writing style, illustrations, motivational messages, and cueing for important points. Suggested changes were noted on the resource itself.

Two 'Other Products' (the '1 in 3 Booklet' and the 'Speakers Kit') were reviewed individually by two experts using similar criteria. The ATSI brochures were assessed for accuracy and currency only by the project team.

Results

26 of the original 45 resources were retained.

Duplicated resources and those that did not add useful information beyond that covered by the retained resources were rejected

A "general set" of seven resources were re-written according to health promotion principles, using the workshop feedback

A "specialist set" of nine resources were recommended for rewrite, with expert input.

A standard set of nine ATSI resources were recommended for retention and rewriting.

The '1 in 3 Booklet' and 'Speakers Kit' were considered satisfactory with no recommended changes.

Interpretation of results

A set of general recommendations across resources was generated including: Emphasise the main message; Date all resources; use Australian English; standardise all terms, recommendations, numbers and quantities, back pages and information contact details; review conformity with International Continence Society recommendations; simplify all language; and, review all resources at least every five years, particularly for accuracy and currency.

Sixteen resources were recommended for inclusion in a new Standard Series, a significant reduction. Nine resources were recommended for inclusion in the ATSI Series. All 'Other Products' were recommended for retention. All Standard Series resources have now been rewritten using these recommendations.

Concluding message

Ensuring one key message for each resource that was clear, targeted to the audience and a call to action, as dictated by health promotion principles, was the major change to this suite of resources.

<i>Specify source of funding or grant</i>	The Continence Foundation of Australia
<i>Is this a clinical trial?</i>	No
<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	NONE