



## ***National IT in Aged Care Awards – 2009***

### ***Best Implementation of the Year Over 150 Places/Clients – Winner Barwon Health Service***

At the recent National IT in Aged Care awards, Barwon Health's use of the leetotalcare® software program won the award for the best software implementation for a facility of over 150 beds.

The awards were announced in Sydney at a gala dinner and recognise excellence and achievement in aged care providers and software suppliers.

The adoption of new technology in the Barwon Health region of South West Victoria has been recognised nationally for the way it has transformed health care delivery in the region, putting it at the forefront of healthcare delivery in Australia.

Sue De Gilio, CEO of Barwon Health says that the benefit to staff and patients from the adoption of the new technology is far reaching.

"For the first time the regions healthcare facilities, including hospitals, outpatients and aged care providers have instant access to electronic patient health records. The [leetotalcare®] system not only ensures that clinicians can access patient records anywhere, anytime; it also protects the patient's medical history."

The leading aged care leetotalcare® technology has also slashed thousands of hours off the time staff spent entering and storing resident and patient health records.

Another aged care provider, utilising the leetotalcare® package was one of this year's finalists in the annual ITAC Awards.

***Best Implementation of the Year Under 150 Places/Clients – finalist Grant Lodge Djerriwarrh Health Service*** - Grant Lodge were selected for this nomination as a finalist for their comprehensive and targeted leetotalcare® implementation process which enabled all staff of this 30 bed facility to have daily involvement in quality resident data collection, transforming the way care is delivered in this small facility.

'This demonstrates the flexibility of leetotalcare® supporting community and aged care facilities of all sizes, budgets and needs,' said Caroline Lee.





The Implementation of the Year category recognises Aged and Community Care Providers and their implementation partners that have effectively used ICT to improve business outcomes in the Australian Aged and Community Care environment.

The awards are run under the auspices of ACAA, ACSA (Aged & Community Services Australia) and HISA (The Health Informatics Society of Australia.)

Caroline Lee said 'we are so proud to have two of our clients achieve such National recognition for their implementation of the lee total care® program, which not only recognizes staff and management's considerable efforts BUT provides the residents and families of these communities reassurance that their care teams are committed and knowledgeable regarding their care needs.'

***Background Information on Barwon Health.***

Sue De Gilio, CEO of Barwon Health says that the benefit to staff and patients from the adoption of the new technology is far reaching.

"We have numerous sites scattered across the region, which presents problems with accessing patient's records,' says Sue De Gilio.

"By having all a patients details in one location, care planning is made so much easier and staff are not tied down with administrative tasks, freeing them up to spend more time actively caring for patients," she said.

The leading aged care leetotalcare® technology has also slashed thousands of hours off the time staff spent entering and storing resident and patient health records. Sue De Gilio said the project has reduced the need for vast amounts of storage for hard copy patient records.

"Racks and racks of paper records are fast disappearing as more and more areas are digitized, helping to reduce our carbon footprint," she said.

The leetotalcare® Project commenced in July 2006 and concluded in June 2008. The team, based at Barwon Health's McKellar Centre, was led by Anne Shirley and enlisted advice from Lee Consulting and the South West Alliance of Rural Health (SWARH) in developing a solution.





“We were finding that there was a diverse range of forms being used across the service which created problems. The volume of repetition in terms of information being written on forms was slowing the admission process and taking up vast amounts of staff time, that could be better spent caring for patients” Anne said.

“All Aged Care resident files are now electronic and can be easily accessed by the staff in real time providing a better level of care.”

CEO of leetotalcare®, Caroline Lee said ‘aged care providers are increasingly recognising that IT can be a powerful tool to offset some of the difficulties in securing the right staff with the right skills; in coping with the complexities of the Federal Governments Aged Care Funding requirements and in slashing time staff spend on paper based record keeping’.

***‘Our Congratulations to Barwon Health and Grant Lodge!!!’***

#### **Contacts**

**Caroline Lee** CEO of leetotalcare®, Ph: 03 93396888

**Sue De Gilio** CEO of Barwon Health. Kate Nelson, Director, Communications, Marketing & Community Engagement. Barwon Health. Ph: 03 5226 7707

**If all else fails contact Mike Swinson on 0407 485 649**

