

Brooks, F., Macintyre, M. and Scott, P. Computer-mediated communication: A means to make create a response to women's health needs? Proceedings of the 4th International, Australian Women's Health Conference. Adelaide, Australia, 2001.

Abstract:

Within health care systems work associated with female dominated professions has often been marginalised, particularly in terms of the skills and competencies associated with such 'women's work'. This position of subordination has been reinforced by their effective exclusion from the development of medical informatics.

This presentation reports on a three year project that has set out to explore the impact of computer-mediated communication (CMC) on female dominated health professions and their ability to positively impact on the character of health care delivery and local health policy developments.

Findings from the project highlight the value of themed and threaded CMC in creating discursive information sharing, as well as the potential for CMC to develop supportive networks among isolated and time constrained female staff. In relation to the increasingly gendered nature of coronary heart disease, the presentation will explore to what extent the creation of such networks enables women health professionals to prioritise women's health.