

Our current site has served us well and after eighteen months of operation we plan on switching over to the new site in December this year. We are very thankful to Leo List who is putting the site together on the Joomla platform.

The new website will feel and look quite different although we have retained the same colour scheme. The new features of this site go some way to realising where Dragon Claw actually wants to be - a *major self-care and support community*. The tension is around where we would like to be versus what actually is built and this, of course, depends on money. There are three major changes: Membership Structure; Carer Central, and Literature Central.

**Membership Structure**

* We are introducing new membership categories. For some time we have been concerned that many visitors to the site are simply interested to support the cause and need to sign up as a casual supporter. The current member category remains. Both the ‘supporter’ and ‘member’ categories are fee-free. Two further membership categories will be deployed. Where a member is particularly active and wants questions answered quickly Dragon Claw will offer an email Q&A service plus first notification of drug trials and patient research requests for a $20 annual fee. A number of these research requests offer a nominal payment for participation. The final category is designed for a corporate entity wishing to support our cause without active participation. For $2,000 a year Dragon Claw will support their interests with a speaker, website recognition and support selected staff social good projects.

**Carer Central**

Carers are people that many of our members depend upon for support, mental health and sociability. The new website will have a dedicated carer support area. Something that we have wanted since we started! An area designed to support carers, provide information and offer alternative ideas. The first iteration will explore

Health sector publisher and marketer - <http://www.princeton.com.au>

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Your phone calls for help when you can’t - <https://lonealarm.com>

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# Our New Website

September & October 2016, # 22

Please circulate

Rheumatoid Disease Self-Care

**Visit www.dragon-claw.org**

We solve complex legal problems - <http://www.bakermckenzie.com/en>

An independent non-profit public policy think tank - [www.globalaccesspartners.org](http://www.globalaccesspartners.org)

<http://www.guild.org.au>

carer as ‘coach’; will detail assistive devices and discuss a concept called ‘carer thinking.’ We invite comments from readers with ideas or suggestions to [info@dragon-claw.org](mailto:info@dragon-claw.org) .

**Literature Central**

It is much better to be aware of the facts about your condition in order to best manage it. Most people don’t have the time. A few visit the Internet and a tiny minority actually research their condition extensively and keep up-to-date. There are many reasons for this but Dragon Claw is going to address this problem in an innovative way. Rather than our members searching through journals and the Internet, we will do the leg work and we will go a step or two further.

Literature Central will provide selected lay summaries in an easy to read format, scientific articles, videos, audio podcasts and a special update section where you can

monitor the latest updates. To do all this we are highly indebted and thankful to the British Medical Journal (BMJ), Lancet, Annals of Rheumatic Disease, Lupus Science & Medicine, RMD Open and Medivizor. The staff at the BMJ has been wonderfully supportive of our patient centric position. We are thankful too to Professor Lyn March for her help.

**Innovation Recognition**

Dragon Claw seems to be making a few waves. Recently the founder, Michael Gill was invited to discussions and dinner at the NSW Parliament. The event was hosted by the GAP organisation, one of our supporters, and focused on innovation strategies. Discussions were held with venture capital firms. What we are doing in Dragon Claw seems to be quite innovative and a number of people are suggesting that our model could form the basis for providing better care to other chronic diseases.

**Aboriginal Health**

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Indigenous Australians have a much higher risk of developing rheumatoid disease than the general non-Aboriginal community. Indigenous Australians experienced a burden of disease that is 2.3 times the rate of non-Indigenous Australians. This has encouraged us to consider how we might be able to support this community. Preliminary planning meetings have been held with the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives. More on this as things develop.

**Social Media**

Have you noticed our social media activity? Please link up, ‘accept’ and be a member by visiting:

LinkedIn and Facebook searching “**DragonClaw**” without spaces.

British Medical Journal

www.BMJ.com

**Encouraging self-care and care coordination with the aim of reducing stress and isolation**

**Notice**: When we launch our new website all registered members on the current site will have to re-register and complete their details as we do not store your passwords.

Some of the street art that will been seen on our new website.

**www.dragon-claw.org**

**AIM**

Dragon Claw provides information, community and support.

**Why The Name?**

Rheumatoid Disease (RD) can be felt like an unpleasant animal moving around the body biting and scratching. Occasionally, the dragon rears up and breathes fire, which is felt as a flare, hence the name.

**Our Patron**

Dr. Mukesh Haikerwal AO former National President of the Australian Medical Association. He is currently a board member of Beyond Blue and Chair of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Health information, personalized – [www.medivizor.com](http://www.medivizor.com)

Pathways based on scientific knowledge and the accumulated wisdom of many cultures - [www.pathways2wellbeing.com.au](http://www.pathways2wellbeing.com.au)