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Dr. Farrell has clinical experience in general and psychiatric nursing and has management expertise both in health and tertiary education sectors.

His research has made him one of the leading international experts on problematic clinical relationships and aggression management in nursing. His 1992 book, *Aggression: A Nurses ' Guide to Therapeutic Management* was amongst the first to show that problems on aggression can be understood and managed by analyzing the characteristics of the participants in their unique contexts. He has published extensively on aggression, including horizontal violence. His current research interests focus on the problems of challenging behaviours in emergency departments and the prevalence of occupational violence in nursing and midwifery. He is regularly invited to present in Australia and overseas and he has provided consultancy for government bodies from health and education.

Dr. Farrell's clinical and academic career began in the UK. He trained at the Oxford School of Nursing and prior to his move to Australia in 1991, he was senior lecturer at Oxford Brooks University. Since then he has held academic positions in Western Australia and Tasmania. In 2006 he joined La Trobe University, Melbourne.
