

# Maternity Project Community of Practice (MPCoP) News

Newsletter 5 – November 2010



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## Final MPCoP meeting

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Nov

9.30-11.30am

Brunetti's (Carlton)

## What's New?

### MPCoP windup

Sadly, the MPCoP group is winding up and this is our final newsletter. The MPCoP members would like to thank all our maternity service colleagues for their support and hard work over the past few years, in developing a high quality maternity care service for women in Victoria.

We would like to acknowledge the great efforts of the Maternity and Newborn Clinical Network (MNCN) which is now well-established and offering plenty of networking opportunities in maternity services:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/clinicalnetworks/maternity.htm>

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So farewell and thankyou from all of us in the MPCoP 😊

## Where to now?

Information about maternity service projects is available from the Maternity Program website:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/maternitycare/progs.htm>

## 2010 Twilight forum

Thankyou to all who attended the 2010 Twilight Forum on **Leading Change in Maternity Services**, facilitated by Jo Campbell in August.

The slides are available on the MPCoP page at:  
<http://3centres.com.au/>

It was great to catch up with colleagues (despite the videoconference equipment not working!). Jo had a lot of great resources to share, which will be posted on the maternity service website in the near future.



### What have we achieved?

The MPCoP has offered an opportunity for informal networking for maternity service project workers since 2005, following the launch of a range of projects were under the *Future Directions (2004)* policy.

The aim of the group was to provide support for project workers and foster synergy between projects.

Since 2005, the MPCoP has:

- Held 13 meetings for project workers. These meetings have provided a valuable opportunity for project workers to meet, discuss their projects, work through current challenges, and celebrate achievements.
- Facilitated five group discussions on issues related to change management, implementation, and workforce morale.
- Organised four annual twilight forums which were offered to all maternity service workers on: guideline implementation; evaluation; maternity workforce issues; and change management. Over 30 colleagues from around Victoria attended each forum.
- Published five newsletters which were circulated to over 200 maternity service colleagues across Victoria.

### What's going on in the Department?

#### Maternity Services Program

The Maternity Services Program and the neonatal component of the Critical Care Program amalgamated in March 2010 as part of the Department of Health restructure. The newly created Maternity and Newborn Program has created synergies and better positions both the maternity and newborn areas strategically within the Performance, Acute Programs and Rural Health Branch.

The strategic priority areas for the Maternity and Newborn Program in 2010-11 include:

- Statewide mapping of health services using the Capability framework for Victorian maternity and newborn services
- Maintaining and strengthening the sustainability of rural maternity and newborn services
- Implementing the National Maternity Plan within the Victorian context
- Developing new service and funding models for postnatal care in the home and community

The Maternity and Newborn Program operational projects for 2010-11 include:

- The Victorian Maternity Services Performance Indicators
- Monitoring demand for maternity and newborn services
- Amalgamating NETS/PETS/PERS
- Development and monitoring of Koori Maternity Services
- Continuing the implementation and evaluation of publicly funded homebirthing
- Developing a Neonatal Services Planning Framework
- Overseeing the Victorian Infant Hearing Screening Program

Updates can be found on the following website:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/maternitycare/progs.htm>

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Andrea.hutchinson@health.vic.gov.au

#### The Rural Maternity Initiative (RMI)

In 2007 the focus of RMI changed to reflect the increasing vulnerability of rural maternity services, mainly as a result of workforce issues, both medical and midwifery. Since this time the RMI has been directed at supporting health services to examine collaboration across health services and/or review their maternity services to ensure they are able to continue to provide that service into the future and if necessary redesign the way that care is provided. Many rural health services have implemented new, or changed their maternity care to primary midwifery or shared care models which have assisted recruitment and retention of midwives to rural areas; all of these have successfully impacted on maternity service viability.

Contact: Joan.oneill@health.vic.gov.au

### Maternity project updates

#### Victorian Maternity Services Education Program (MSEP)

As a key initiative of the *Future Directions for Victoria's maternity services*, MSEP continues to facilitate multidisciplinary site specific education in pregnancy care and maternity emergency education. A total of ten pregnancy care workshops and seven maternity emergency programs will be facilitated across regional and rural areas of Victoria during 2010.

MSEP are piloting an online maternity e-learning (MeL) package. MeL has been developed in response to a need identified by clinicians across Victoria for access to education that is flexible and available onsite, in their current location. MeL comprises six modules relating to the clinical management of selected maternity emergencies. Following successful pilot completion and subsequent program fine-tuning it is anticipated that MeL will be available for wider distribution in maternity services.

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#### ANew Approach to psychosocial support in Pregnancy

The ANew program is coming to an end in 2011 after 5 years of delivering high quality education for maternity care providers on many aspects of psychosocial care and communication.

Thankyou to all who have participated in this program over the years, and we hope the program has been valuable for you.

Contact: [mcass@mercy.com.au](mailto:mcass@mercy.com.au)

#### RANZCOG Fetal Surveillance Education Program (FSEP)

Following the highly successful trial of the pilot program in 2005, the FSEP continues to thrive nationally and internationally with a unique suite of targeted products, aimed to help reduce intrapartum morbidity and mortality through education. The FSEP, like RANZCOG remains a not for profit organisation

Program highlights and developments thus far include:

- A range of face to face presentations, tailored to meet individual learning needs as well as the fetal surveillance education needs of hospitals and Universities across Australia and New Zealand
- The development of the Online Fetal Surveillance Education Program (OFSEP); an online learning tool designed to complement our face to face programs. A significant upgrade is planned for the OFSEP to facilitate individual tracking, with increased assessments, certification on completion, an improved capacity as a stand alone product and greater accessibility to a wider audience.
- The development of our book "*Fetal Surveillance: A Practical Guide*", which was published in late 2009 in conjunction with the Maternal Fetal Medicine Department at Southern Health Clayton. To date more than 1600 copies have been sold throughout Australia, New Zealand and Europe. The book can be purchased through the FSEP office and order forms are available on the FSEP website, [http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/fsep/practical\\_guide.shtml](http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/fsep/practical_guide.shtml).
- The development of a valid and reliable assessment tool, in conjunction with the Melbourne University Education and Research Department, to better assess and address the specific educational needs of individuals and institutions.
- The national and international publication of four original articles regarding the development and ongoing assessment of the FSEP and its suite of products. Further publications are planned
- The RANZCOG FSEP remains the most cost effective fetal surveillance education available throughout Australia and New Zealand, with increasing interest and delivery of our programs internationally.

Contact: [fsep@ranzcog.edu.au](mailto:fsep@ranzcog.edu.au) or 03 9412 2958

### Maternity and Newborn Clinical Network (MNCN)

The MNCN is actively engaged in a broad range of initiatives.

The Victorian standard for induction of labour (IOL) and 4 clinical practice guidelines for the management of IOL were launched in February 2010 and are available on our website.

For more details please see our newsletter at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/clinicalnetworks/maternity.htm>

Contact: [Debbie.rogers@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:Debbie.rogers@health.vic.gov.au)

### The National Smoke Free Pregnancy Project

Quit has been funded by the Commonwealth Government to work with and train midwives in smoking intervention and cessation to help encourage and support pregnant women who smoke to quit smoking and to stay smoke free after giving birth.

While the Commonwealth project will conclude in December 2010, Quit Victoria will continue training and educating midwives as well as working with Melbourne Maternity hospitals and Regional Victorian hospitals. The aim will be to build capacity within these hospitals to increase smoking cessation interventions and fax referral to the Quitline for ongoing support for pregnant women and their partners.

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### 3centres Collaboration

In 2009 the 3centres Collaboration embarked upon a project to develop a suite of five guidelines for complications in pregnancy. The aim was to standardise care across the three tertiary hospitals that offer maternity care, namely: Mercy Hospital for Women, Monash Medical Centre at Clayton and The Royal Women's Hospital.

To date, two guidelines have been completed Hypertension (including preeclampsia and eclampsia) and APH (including placenta praevia and abruption) and they are available on the website.

The remaining three guidelines, PPROM, Cervical shortening and Preterm labour, are in draft. The target completion date for publication is 31/12/10.

2011 will see the 3centres Collaboration undertake another exciting guideline project.

For further details and to view the guidelines please see our website: <http://3centres.com.au/guidelines/>

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Mercy Hospital for Women  
Monash Medical Centre  
The Royal Women's Hospital