



RPA Women and Babies Midwifery and Nursing Research Unit

Strategic Plan 2014 – 2016

Philosophy

The RPA Women and Babies Midwifery and Nursing Research Unit aims to improve the care and outcomes for women, their partners and infants within the context of an evidence-based ethos. The work of the Research Unit is primarily to facilitate debate, promote research, provide education and to enhance the development of best practice guidelines.

Vision

That the RPA Women and Babies Midwifery and Nursing Research Unit be recognised for excellence in research and practice development within women's health.

Goals

- To promote best practice through the implementation and application of research to improve the care of mothers and babies in our service.
- To build collaborative networks with the university sector and other centres of excellence in research.
- To partner with women and their families and the community in prioritising areas of research.
- To attract funding that will ensure the activities of the Research Unit can be sustained.

Objectives

- To provide an effective and creative channel of communication that will assist in the dissemination of knowledge.
- To provide assistance with the professional development of midwives, nurses and students.
- To provide support and direction for clinicians to undertake clinical research.
- To foster the development and implementation of inter professional research projects.
- To establish and develop consumer consultation in research and practice guideline development.
- To assist with the preparation of articles and research papers for publication and conference presentations under the auspices of the Research Unit.

Goal: to promote best practice through the implementation and application of research to improve the care of mothers and babies in our service.

Objective	Activities toward achievement	Record of achievement by end of 2016
To provide an effective and creative channel of communication that will assist in the dissemination of knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation on and feedback to district and facility research related committees. • Presenting a biennial conference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee representatives on hospital and district committees. • Achieved for 2014 and 2016
To provide assistance with the professional development of midwives, nurses and midwifery students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement with new graduate midwives audit/PD activities. • Provide small events – seminars, tutorials – on research related topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New graduates engaged in small projects on self-selected topics. • Hala and Shelley providing tutorials for new summer scholar program (short project research) commencing in 2016. One midwife completed a project in this program.

Goal: to build collaborative networks with the university sector and other centres of excellence in research.

Objective	Activities toward achievement	Record of achievement by end of 2016
To provide support and direction for clinicians to undertake clinical research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make available the expertise within this committee. • Direct to other sources of help (e.g. Research Business Centre, HREC, and library). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite midwives to present projects during planning phase. • Hala was appointed P/T SLHD Research CMC in 2016 to support the development of ideas and projects and has started a journal club.
To foster the development and implementation of inter professional research projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of members in multidisciplinary research and audit activities. • Attending research meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various committee members involved in multidisciplinary projects. • Participate in Monday meetings.

Goal: to partner with women and their families and the community in prioritising areas of research.

Objective	Activities toward achievement	Record of achievement by end of 2016
To establish and develop consumer consultation in research and practice guideline development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise volunteers' list for consumer representation. • Approach Little Wonder for neonatal care consumer input. • Make contact with existing consumer groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster developed by volunteer unit to invite parents' participation. • As required. • Three suitable volunteers are available to provide consumer input as required.

Goal: to attract funding that will ensure the activities of the Research Unit can be sustained.

Objective	Activities toward achievement	Record of achievement by end of 2016
To assist with the preparation of articles and research papers for publication and conference presentations under the auspices of the Research Unit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise opportunities for presenters to rehearse before the event and provide critical feedback. • List resources for funding. • Keep record of articles published by committee members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On request. • Ongoing. • Ongoing.
To use conference profits to provide small grants for approved research projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise high risk midwifery conference every two years. • Organise perinatal update event every four years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved profit for 2014 and 2016 conferences. • Planning next perinatal update event for 2017.
To raise funds for undertaking small projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run events for profit, seek sponsorship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Profit raised from all events