



Annual Report 2005

Committee membership 2005

The Centre committee for 2005 was Maureen Ryan (chair), Dr Sandie Bredemeyer OAM, Valerie Smith, Hannah Dahlen, Shelley Reid (minutes secretary), Jan Polverino, Charlene Thornton (Research Bulletin coordinator), Hala Phipps, Kate Griew, Kate Cheney, Marilena Pelosi and Mary Lantry.

Centre Launch

On Friday 14 October 2005 the Centre was officially launched. The event took place in the Kerry Packer Education Centre and was opened by Valerie Smith, RPA Women and Babies Clinical Manager, followed by Professor Kate White from the University of Sydney as guest speaker. Various members of the Centre then presented their current research projects and the event was closed by Maureen Ryan.

Centre Research Project

The Centre aims to undertake joint projects as well as assisting individual members in their various research projects. Following discussion of priorities it was agreed to undertake a project revolving around near-term babies managed on postnatal wards. This group of babies has special needs that so far are not well investigated, and since it is the philosophy of RPA Women and Babies to keep mothers and babies together, this project was considered to be of high priority.

Project funding

In October 2005 the health care company Baxter made a donation for the purpose of supporting a defined research project focusing on the needs of near-term babies when managed on the postnatal ward.

In November 2005 Sandie Bredemeyer reported that RPA Newborn Care and the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Sydney won funding for a project evaluating the use of TcB in preterm and sick infants.

Research Directory

Charlene Thornton developed this publication. First issue launched in April 2005.

Logo

Jan Polverino invited Leanne Dwight (graphic designer) to design a logo for the Centre, to be used on stationary and PowerPoint slides. The final version was exhibited at the Centre launch.

Conference presentations

Griew K (2005). Not drowning, waving ... the introduction of a 'Use of water in labour and birth' policy in a tertiary hospital delivery ward. *ICM Triennial Conference*, Brisbane.

Polverino J, Bredemeyer S (March 2005). Pain management in the neonate. How best to manage procedural pain and discomfort. *Taking Midwifery to the Future Conference*, Windsor NSW.

Polverino J, Zions S (May 2005). Blankets of love. *Dalgety Women's Day*, Dalgety NSW.
(Sandie, Hala and Kate at PSANZ conference in Adelaide).

Publications

Bredemeyer S, Reid S & Wallace M (2005). Thermal management for preterm births. *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 52:5, 482-489.

Ryan M and Roberts C (2005). A retrospective cohort study comparing the clinical outcomes of a birth centre and labour ward in the same hospital. *Australian Midwifery Journal* 18:2, 17-21.

Collaborations

Faculty of Nursing, University of Sydney

During 2005 a Heads of Agreement for Affiliation was developed, which requires signatures from the University of Sydney and from Di Gill, RPA Executive.

Professor Kate White suggested the Centre nominate candidates for a Visiting Fellowship at The University of Sydney and RPA Women and Babies, to occur in late 2006.

RPA Nursing and Midwifery Research Advisory Group

Charlene Thornton and Shelley Reid continue to represent the Centre at meetings and liaise between the two groups. The group has benefited from the Centre's prior experience.

SSWAHS Research Advisory Council

Kerry Russell nominated Charlene Thornton to represent RPAH on this council, in June 2005. There was a further call for members in November 2005. This information was forwarded to the RPA Nurses and Midwives Research Advisory Group.

Obstetric Research Forum

This group was established in March and reports attendance of around 30 per meeting. The Centre is represented by Charlene Thornton. A presentation by this group followed the Centre launch in October 2005.

Written by Shelley Reid on behalf of the RPA Women and Babies Centre for Midwifery & Nursing Research.