



Annual Report 2007

Committee membership 2007

The Centre committee for 2006 was Maureen Ryan (chair), Sandie Bredemeyer, Shelley Reid (minutes secretary), Jan Polverino, Hala Phipps, Kate Griew, Kate Cheney, Marilena Pelosi, Mary Lantry, Kate White and Maureen Boughton.

Hannah Dahlen was on leave during this year.

Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, Sydney University appointments

Sandie Bredemeyer was appointed Clinical Associate Professor, Perinatal Nursing.

Visiting Fellow

The University of Sydney Short Term Visiting Collaborative Research Fellow Scheme, offered for the first time in 2006, allowed the centre to invite Professor Tina Lavender from Liverpool, UK to visit in July 2007. As well as speaking at the conference (see below) Professor Lavender visited each clinical area in RPA Women and Babies for extensive consultation.

Centre Research Project

The Centre aims to undertake joint projects as well as assisting individual members in their various research projects. In October 2005 the health care company Baxter made a donation for the purpose of supporting a defined research project and 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. A study protocol was developed and named *Care Under Special Protocol* (CUSP). Two midwives were selected, Meredith Laylim and Wendy Faulkner, and work was complete in 2007. The aim for 2008 is to write a paper for publication and plan future research based on the study results.

Project funding

In 2006 Sandie Bredemeyer reported that RPA Newborn Care received a Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery grant for a project on environmental noise in Newborn Care and educational strategies to bring about a reduction. Ethics approval for this project was granted in 2007 and the study is planned for 2008. A co-researcher from the University of Sydney has been recruited – Jackie Short (psychologist).

Inaugural Conference

The Centre held a highly successful one-day conference on Friday 20 July with Professor Tina Lavender as the keynote speaker. There were 143 delegates from around NSW who evaluated the programme very favourably. The Centre decided to hold this event bi-annually.

Conference presentations 2007

RPA Women and Babies Centre for Midwifery and Nursing Research Conference

20 July, Rydges Camperdown

Meredith Laylim

Midwifery care of the near term infant under special protocols –the CUSP project

Hannah Dahlen

Perineal warm packs: 'Old wives tales' or evidence based practice?

International Lactation Consultant Association Annual Conference

15-19 August, San Diego, California, USA

Mary Lantry

1) Breastfeeding Despite the Odds – The Story of Millie (Down Syndrome and other Complications)

2) Two Unusual Breast Conditions and the Role of the Lactation Consultant as an Advocate and Educator

ANN 18th Annual Conference

26-27 October, Crowne Plaza Darling Harbour

Wendy Faulkner

Midwifery care of the near term infant under special protocols – the CUSP project

Jan Polverino/Sandie Bredemeyer

Transcutaneous measurement of jaundice in the newborn: an evaluation of clinical accuracy in preterm infants.

NSW Lactation College Seminar

21 November, RPAH

Mary Lantry

Sorting through Allergies and Breastfeeding: A Lactation Consultant Perspective

Publications 2007

Bredemeyer SL, Polverino J, Beeby PJ (2007). Assessment of jaundice in the term infant – accuracy of transcutaneous bilirubinometers compared with serum bilirubin levels: part two. *Neonatal, Paediatric and Child Health Nursing* 10:1, 5-12.

Dahlen HG, Ryan M, Homer CS, Cooke M (2007). An Australian prospective cohort study of risk factors for severe perineal trauma during childbirth. *Midwifery* 23:2, 196-203.

Freeman LM, Griew K (2007). Enhancing the midwife-woman relationship through shared decision making and clinical guidelines. *Women and Birth; Journal of the Australian College of Midwives* 20:1 pp.

Collaborations

Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Sydney

Professor Kate White and Dr Maureen Boughton worked with the Centre to organize the visit by the Visiting Research Fellow, Professor Tina Lavender.

RPA Nursing and Midwifery Research Advisory Group

Sandie Bredemeyer and Shelley Reid continue to represent the Centre at meetings and liaise between the two groups.

SSWAHS Research Advisory Council

Shelley Reid represents the Centre on this council. Meetings were suspended after August 2006 as Professor Rhonda Griffiths was seconded to the School of Nursing at UWS until the end of 2006. There was no activity by the SSWAHS Research Advisory Council in 2007.

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