



WOMEN'S
HEALTHCARE
AUSTRALASIA

Membership Benefits & Services



Enhancing the health and wellbeing of women and newborns by supporting hospitals and healthcare services in Australia to achieve excellence in clinical care.

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Membership Benefits & Services

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Our Members

QLD

Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service:

Atherton Hospital
Cairns Hospital
Innisfail Hospital
Mareeba Hospital
Tully Hospital
Mossman Multi Purpose Health Service

Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service:

Emerald Hospital
Gladstone Hospital
Rockhampton Hospital
Biloela Hospital

Darling Downs Health:

Toowoomba Hospital
Chinchilla Hospital
Dalby Hospital
Goondiwindi Hospital
Stanthorpe Hospital
Warwick Hospital
Kingaroy Hospital

Gold Coast Health:

Gold Coast University Hospital

Mater Health Service:

Mater Mother's Hospital

Metro North Hospital and Health Service:

Royal Brisbane and Womens Hospital
Caboolture Hospital
Redcliffe Hospital

Metro South Health:

Redland Hospital
Logan Hospital
Beaudesert Hospital

North West Hospital & Health Service:

Mount Isa Base Hospital

South West Hospital and Health Service:

Charleville Hospital
Roma Hospital
St George Hospital

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service:

Sunshine Coast University Hospital
Gympie Hospital

Townsville Hospital & Health Service:

Townsville University Hospital

Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service:

Hervey Bay Hospital
Bundaberg Hospital
Maryborough Hospital

West Moreton Health:

Ipswich Hospital

NSW

Deniliquin Hospital

Far West Local Health District:

Broken Hill Base Hospital

Mid North Coast Local Health District:

Coffs Harbour Health Campus
Port Macquarie Base Hospital
Kempsey District Hospital
Macksville District Hospital

Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District:

Blue Mountains Hospital
Hawkesbury Hospital
Lithgow Hospital
Nepean Hospital

Northern NSW Local Health District:

The Tweed Hospital
Lismore Base Hospital
Grafton Base Hospital
Byron Central Hospital
Murwillumbah District Hospital

Northern Sydney Local Health District:

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital
Royal North Shore Hospital
Ryde Hospital

South Eastern Sydney Local Health District:

Royal Hospital for Women
St George Hospital
Sutherland Hospital

South East Regional Hospital (Bega)

South Western Sydney Local Health District

Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital
Bowral Hospital
Camden and Campbelltown Hospital
Fairfield Hospital
Liverpool Hospital

Westmead Hospital

ACT

ACT Health:

Centenary Hospital for Women & Children

Calvary Healthcare ACT:

Calvary Public Hospital Bruce

TAS

Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services:

Launceston General Hospital
Royal Hobart Hospital
North West Regional Hospital

SA

Barossa Hills Fleurieu Local Health Network:

Gawler Health Service
Kangaroo Island Health Service
Kapunda Hospital
Mount Barker District Health Service
South Coast District Hospital
Tanunda War Memorial Hospital

Flinders Medical Centre

Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network:

Whyalla Hospital
Port Augusta Hospital and Regional Health Service

Eyre Far North Local Health Network:

Ceduna District Health Services
Port Lincoln Health Service

Limestone Coast Local Health Network:

Mount Gambier & District Health Service
Naracoorte Health Service

Lyell McEwin Hospital

Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network:

Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital
Loxton Hospital
Riverland General Hospital
Waikerie Health Service

Yorke & Northern Local Health Network:

Clare Hospital
Crystal Brook Hospital
Jamestown Hospital
Port Pirie Hospital
Walleroo Hospital & Health Services

Women's and Children's Health Network

VIC

Barwon Health - University Hospital Geelong

Bendigo Health

Castlemaine Health

Djerriwarrh Health Services:

Bachus Marsh and Melton Regional Hospital

Eastern Health:

Angliss Hospital
Box Hill Hospital

Peninsula Health:

Frankston Hospital

Mercy Health:

Mercy Hospital for Women
Werribee Mercy Hospital

Monash Health:

Casey Hospital
Dandenong Hospital
Monash Medical Centre

Northeast Health Wangaratta

Northern Health:

Northern Hospital

West Gippsland Healthcare Group

Western Health

Sunshine Hospital

Joan Kirner Women's & Children's Hospital

The Royal Women's Hospital:

The Royal Women's Hospital, Parkville
The Women's at Sandringham

NT

Department of Health NT:

Alice Springs Hospital
Royal Darwin & Palmerston Hospital

WA

East Metropolitan Health Service:

Armadale Hospital

South Metro Local Health Service:

Fiona Stanley Hospital

St John of God Health Service (Midland)

Women & Newborn Health Service:

King Edward Memorial Hospital
Osborne Park Hospital

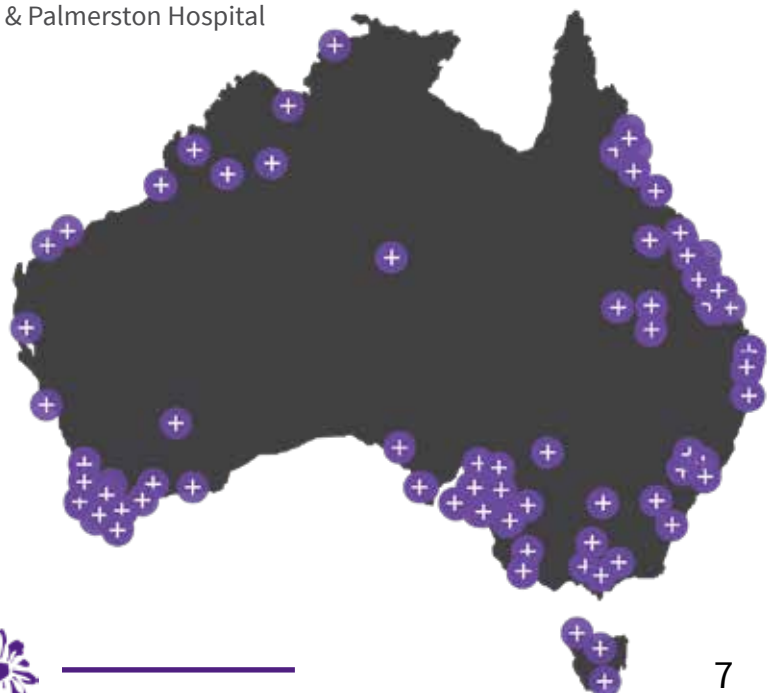
WA Country Health Service:

Albany Hospital
Bridgetown Hospital
Broome Regional Hospital
Bunbury Hospital
Busselton Hospital
Carnarvon Hospital
Collie District Hospital
Denmark Hospital
Derby Hospital
Esperance Hospital
Fitzroy Crossing Hospital
Geraldton Hospital
Halls Creek Hospital
Hedland Health Campus
Kalgoorlie Health Campus
Karratha Health Campus
Katanning Hospital
Kununurra Hospital
Margaret River Hospital
Narrogin Hospital
Northam Hospital
Warren Hospital
Wyndham Hospital

More than

130

Maternity & Newborn
hospitals participating
in WHA





About us

At Women's Healthcare Australasia (WHA) our vision is to enhance the health and wellbeing of women and newborns by supporting maternity hospitals and health care services in Australasia to achieve excellence in clinical care of women and newborns.

WHA is a non-profit community of women's hospitals and maternity units. Originally established in 1994 by the then Chief Executives of the Women's Hospitals to help staff of these services share information, WHA has since expanded into a vibrant community of more than 120 maternity hospitals and health services across Australia. Our members include the largest tertiary maternity services in capital cities through to the smallest rural and remote maternity services, and every type of service in between.

We understand that managers and clinicians involved in the care of women and newborns face similar challenges, despite each service being unique. We recognise that the expertise for addressing these

common challenges, and for coming up with innovative solutions, lies within the member community. That's why our primary focus is on helping managers and clinicians of maternity services network with one another, to share their ideas and expertise efficiently. We facilitate the spread of best practice.

When a maternity service joins WHA, all managers and clinicians involved in providing care to women and newborns are welcome to access an extensive range of Special Interest Groups (SIGs), face to face events, and our secure Members Community. These services make it easy to meet and interact with peers with similar challenges and responsibilities in other maternity services. WHA members are generous in sharing their expertise, ideas and resources through WHA networks. Everyone is striving to improve outcomes for women and newborns in our care.



Vision

Our vision is to enhance the health and well-being of women and newborns through supporting hospitals and health services to achieve excellence in clinical care. At Women's Healthcare Australasia we:

- Identify best practice through performance benchmarking among members
- Support the sharing of information and expertise on health service delivery and quality improvement through member networking
- Showcase innovations that improve clinical outcomes for women and newborns
- Advocate to governments and other stakeholders on issues of common interest to members regarding women's healthcare





Our members have access to a valuable range of services and benefits, including:

[Benchmarking Services \(page 14\)](#)

Benchmarking with peers is a valuable tool for services seeking to assess the safety, quality and efficiency of the care they provide to women and newborns. WHA offers all member hospitals and health services the opportunity to participate in our benchmarking program. The data collected and shared addresses both clinical performance (interventions in labour, outcomes for babies, etc) and management of the health service (trends in activity, length of stay, costs per patient episode, etc).

WHA recognises that each maternity service is unique in terms of the community it serves, the facilities and capabilities it has to offer women and families, and the skill mix of clinical teams. Benchmarks are provided to group services with peers of a similar size and capability, allowing them to compare their performance with similar maternity hospitals throughout Australasia.

Benchmarking reports are published annually, and data is also available via a secure online portal. The results of the benchmarking help services to identify areas where their performance is strong in relation to peers, as well as areas on which they could improve.

[Networking Opportunities \(page 16\)](#)

WHA makes it possible for like-minded maternity care professionals and service managers to easily connect with one another. Our members have exclusive access to an array of Special Interest Groups that allow them to communicate with their peers throughout Australasia. These networks communicate online, via teleconference, and at annual face to face events.

[Collaborative Improvement \(page 23\)](#)

As part of our commitment to supporting members to achieve excellence in care of women and newborns, WHA facilitates breakthrough collaborative improvement projects. These projects draw upon internationally renowned methodologies for achieving sustained improvement in healthcare settings in terms of outcomes for patients.

In 2018, a number of WHA member hospitals worked together on reducing harm to women from third-and-fourth degree perineal tears. The collaborative brought together hospitals to share the most up-to-date evidence based knowledge about this topic and supported the consistent application of best practice in perineal care.

WHA is proud to support a wide range of members throughout Australasia, from large specialist hospitals to small rural services, to network & learn from one another. Our members are united by their dedication to providing excellence in maternity and newborn care.



Advocacy Services (page 25)

WHA is a respected advocate for the maternity services sector. Government agencies and other stakeholders seek advice from WHA on a wide range of issues related to the provision of maternity and newborn care. WHA consults closely with members on each issue and can speak on behalf of the sector without the restrictions that can apply to individuals employed by a given health service. We take this responsibility seriously and ensure that all advice or advocacy provided is credible, factual and informed by our members. Copies of WHA submissions and media releases are published on our website.

A rich array of information & resources from peer services

WHA members generously share ideas, advice, resources, images, videos, tools and other resources specific to maternal and newborn healthcare through our secure online Members Community.





Our Governance

President

A/Prof Anne Sneddon

Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Department of Obstetrics
Gold Coast University Hospital, QLD

Vice President

Ms Kate Reynolds

Coordinator of Midwifery
WA Country Health Service, WA

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Clinical Director, Division of Women's, Children's & Family Health
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A/Prof Graeme Boardley

A/Executive Director of Nursing & Midwifery
King Edward Memorial Hospital, WA

Prof Boon Lim

Clinical Director Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Centenary Hospital for Women & Children, ACT

Ms Susan Gannon

A/Executive Director
Royal Hobart Hospital, TAS

Ms Maree Reynolds

Director Women's Health & Newborn Services
Mater Mother's Hospital, QLD

Ms Sue McBeath

Directory of Nursing and Midwifery
Women's Adolescent & Children's Services
Royal Hobart Hospital, TAS

Ms Naomi McKeown

Special Purpose Director - Independent
Operations Manager
Parallel Project Management

Ms Tessa Kowaliw

Special Purpose Director - Consumer

Women's Healthcare Australasia exists wholly because of the dedication and passion of all of us as clinicians, managers and administrators for improving the health and well being of women and newborns.



Letter from the president

I have a long history of being involved in WHA since 1998 in various roles, including the Early Pregnancy Loss consensus statement, active in benchmarking at both Canberra and Gold Coast University Hospitals, many presentations at Annual Safety and Quality meetings and since 2012 on the Board. I have served as Vice President since 2014, and president since 2018. I have observed the organisation grow from a relatively small benchmarking service to the current much broader scope. It has been an exciting and rewarding experience to be a part of this growth. Recently I have been heavily involved in the new venture of the Reducing Severe Perineal Trauma and believe that this project, and its methodology, will be an exciting new area for WHA.

WHA has evolved to be in a unique position to influence maternity care and women's health in Australia. In the UK the RCOG has a broad range of advocacy, teaching, learning, resourcing and involvement with multidisciplinary groups in

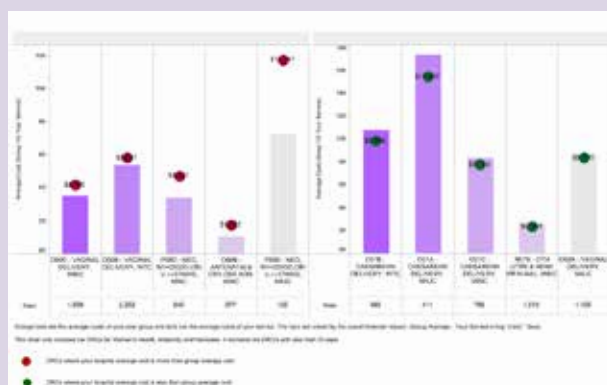
formulating their remit.

In Australia, there would appear to be a void for a professional body that truly advocates for the women and the services that provide the care. I believe that WHA is well placed to fill this void. Increasingly, health organisations are looking for leadership and support, in patient-centred, and patient-focused outcomes and WHA is ideally placed to do this. Women are increasingly looking for leadership and support in areas that affect their health.

A/Prof Anne Sneddon

President
Women's Healthcare Australasia





One of the newest additions in the benchmarking program is the inclusion of the summary chart for the potential cost saving DRGs for your service. At a glance you can compare your hospital to your peers and see areas of potential efficiency savings.

Overview

WHA's Benchmarking Program supports participating members to optimise their care of women and newborns by comparing their performance on a wide range of indicators with similar hospitals & maternity units across Australasia. It provides information on trends that might not otherwise be apparent at service level. It assists members to identify areas where their service's performance is strong, and areas where there are opportunities for improvement.

WHA assists members to connect with peers who have achieved positive results in those areas and create a platform to share learning across organisations. Results from both Clinical and Activity and Costing benchmarking are discussed in a number of different Special Interest Groups. WHA invites services that are performing well on a given indicator or patient group to share their achievement with other services.

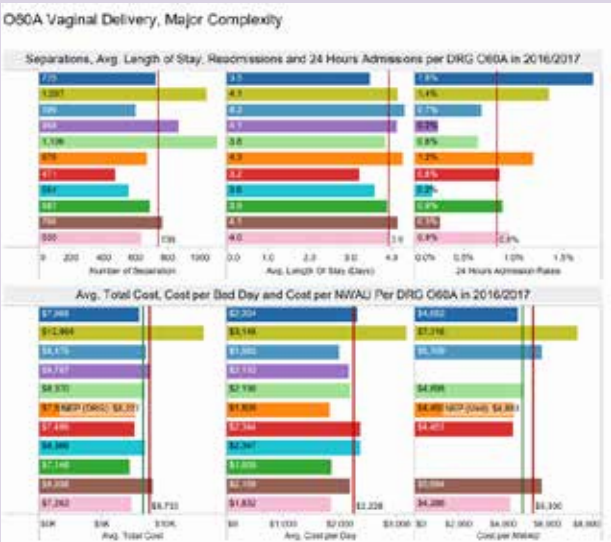
Activity & Costing

WHA's Activity and Costing Report describes inpatient activity occurring in women's hospitals and maternity units throughout Australia using coded Diagnosis-Related Group (DRG) data. With more than 90 maternity services participating in the latest benchmarking round, the benchmarks are now more rigorous and meaningful than ever before. The report includes summary tables and charts for selected DRGs on:

- Number of separations
- Length of stay
- Long stay rate (> 21 days)
- Urgent re-admission rate within 28 days
- Same day admission rate and 24-hour Admission Rate
- Average cost in terms of separation, bed days or National Weighted Activity Unit
- Average cost against National Efficient Price for 40 most common DRGs

We find all members are generous in sharing insights, expertise, tools and resources related to new models of care or other improvements with their peers.

WHA designed this dashboard to assist members to quickly identify how their service is performing in comparison with peer services in terms of separation, length of stay, same day admission, 24-hour admission rate, urgent readmission rate within 28 days and average cost.



Maternity Care

Our benchmarking program supports participating members to optimise their care of women and newborns with similar maternity units across Australia by comparing their performance on a wide range of clinical indicators. These include indicators related to common interventions in labour and birth for selected primiparous women as well as for all women (such as rates of induction, caesarean section and so forth). Selected data is also collected & reported on adverse outcomes (such as PPH, perineal trauma, blood transfusion), and for newborns (APGARs & admissions to nurseries). Data is also provided on the characteristics of women accessing each service.

The clinical indicators are presented in both an annual snapshot and in terms of trends over multiple years for both individual services and their peer group as a whole.

It assists members to identify areas where performance is strong, and areas where there are opportunities to enhance outcomes for women and newborns.



We have also provided more detailed breakdown of cost allocations and outliers to enable you to identify the drivers behind any results which is at odds with peer services.





Overview

When a health service joins WHA, all staff have access to an extensive range of Special Interest Groups (SIGs), face to face events, and our secure online Members Community. These services make it easy to meet and interact with people with similar challenges and responsibilities in other maternity and newborn services.

WHA members are generous in sharing their expertise, ideas and resources through WHA networks. Everyone is motivated by the same goal: providing the best care for women and their newborns.

Events

WHA hosts both face to face and online meetings, webinars, and workshops, that are dedicated to our members. The program for each meeting is designed in close consultation with the participants, with a focus on providing opportunities to consider common challenges and share innovations. The opportunity to meet once a year face to face with peers lays a strong foundation for online and teleconference networking throughout the year.

Online Members Community

Members of WHA have secure access to our online Members Community, where all of our members are able to post, view, and comment on content shared in our Special Interest Groups. Members also have the opportunity to post questions and have them answered by a community of dedicated healthcare professionals. There is a powerful search engine as well to make it easy to find material relevant to your service or interest.



“Inspiring best practice through networking with peers in other maternity services”

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

SIGs enable individuals to readily connect with colleagues and peers who share a passion for excellence in one or more areas of women's healthcare. Our networks are dynamic, solution focused and typically multidisciplinary. Participants generously share expertise, ideas, examples of best practice, and challenges with one another. Our groups are open to all interested staff from member hospitals.

Check out all the Special Interest Groups we have to offer (page 18-21) and how to access and join them (page 28).

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

All staff of member maternity services are welcome to participate in Special Interest Groups. Share challenges, test ideas, learn about successes, share tools & resources. Be inspired by logging in to our Members Community





WHA are hosting many informative & insightful web conferences to take part in with peers. Join by visiting:

<https://members.wcha.asn.au/events/join-wha-web-conferences>



Maternity Care for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Women & Families

This group is open to managers, clinicians and Aboriginal Health Workers from WHA member hospitals interested in networking about how best to provide culturally safe & equitable care. Topics discussed include:

- Culturally Safe Perinatal Mental Health – Screening tool “Baby Coming – You Ready?”
- Improving access to “gold standard” maternity care, resulting in better health outcomes for mothers and babies
- Quality of experiences during the First 1000 days – meeting the child’s needs and those of their families to improve health and wellbeing



Allied Health

A multidisciplinary group of Allied Health professionals/leaders focusing on many aspects of maternal and child focused care. Topics discussed include:

- Service wide implementation of Experience Based Co-Design Program - consumers and health workers together in an authentic and equal partnership to co-design care to deliver an improved experience
- Insight into Telehealth – saving precious time, clinical care delivered using technology
- Data: does it matter? – linking DRG demographics and interventions to assess the efficacy of allied health services
- NDIS - assisting staff to differentiate between health issues and disability
- Early Childhood intervention delays & strategies to improve the timeliness of care
- COVID-19 discussions



Clinical Educators

This SIG creates the opportunity to help midwifery educators share the challenges & strategies for embedding new policies and research into practice. Recent areas of discussion include:

- Strategies for improving staff morale and patient care – Learning from Excellence (LEX)
- Building upon the WHA 3rd & 4th Degree Perineal Tears Collaborative – effective education sessions and capacity building for continuous improvement
- Project Primip - improving birthing outcomes while recognizing the impact of language and reconsidering the need for interventions in the labours of healthy primiparous women
- WHA Benchmarking Data examining the decline in rates of Unassisted Vaginal Births and VBACs and the increase of Inductions of Labour, instrumental births and Caesarean Sections



Directors of Nursing & Midwifery

This SIG provides an opportunity for Directors to discuss leadership challenges and initiatives within their services. Topics discussed include:

- iCOPE Perinatal Mental Health Digital Screening – benefits and funding opportunities
- Postnatal Benchmarking – understanding staffing for postnatal care & options to enhance care and outcomes for admitted postnatal women
- Standard 2 partnering with consumers - how maternity services can best engage with, and respond to, consumer's views in the design & delivery of their services and Establishment of the WHA Consumer Representative SIG
- Criteria & processes for the diagnosis of gestational diabetes – evaluation by the Women's Hospital of workload, cost and clinical outcomes associated with the GTT
- Service improvement, changing characteristics of women and our labour & birth care
- Pilot on engaging women in design of service: Family Violence and Mental Health
- MGP – WHA Morale Survey, Growing and sustaining MGP services



Maternity Consumer Representatives

This SIG is a new network for maternity consumers at WHA member hospitals to provide peer networking and support. Recent topics have included:

- The development of a WHA Consumer Engagement Framework
- Providing representation for population sub-groups including women of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background
- The ACSQHC Clinical Practice Standard on 3rd & 4th degree perineal tears
- Development of a secure online forum for WHA maternity consumers



Maternity Services Managers

This Special Interest Group (SIG) enables MUMs to network and share challenges and improvements. Recent discussion areas include:

- iCOPE Perinatal Mental Health Digital Screening – benefits and opportunities to improve care & outcomes for women with mental health care needs during the perinatal period
- Culturally Safe Maternity Care – how is it being provided, what tools are being used to measure this, strategies to increase workforce competency
- Induction of labour – who, when to induce, variation and compliance with evidence-based guidelines, design of booking processes to support evidence based decision-making



Midwifery Group Practice

This SIG provides an opportunity for midwives, obstetricians and managers working in, or with Midwifery Group Practices to network about sustaining and expanding MGP services. Recent discussion topics include:

- Celebrating Success – strengths, opportunities for improvement and benchmarking clinical outcomes
- Challenges of establishing a rural MGP – engaging support from GP Obstetricians
- Variation in care of women who become high risk in a low risk continuity of care model
- Sustainability, recruitment, retention and expansion – the when and how of having new graduates working in MGPs





NICU & Special Care Nurseries

This is a multidisciplinary group of Neonatologists, Nurses and Midwives focused on enhancing care of newborns and their families in both NICU & SCN. Recent areas of interest include:

- Successful projects to reduce & sustain lower rates of infection in neonates
- Central Line Insertion innovations
- Implications of new criteria for the diagnosis of gestational diabetes: a health outcome and cost of care analysis
- Establishment of a reliable non-emergency neonatal transfer
- Red Cross Milk Bank supply donated milk to neonatal intensive care units in SA & NSW
- Humidification during resuscitation for preterm babies in the context of COVID-19



Perinatal Mental Health

This relatively new SIG provides a multi-disciplinary network to learn and share information regarding the challenges of providing services that address Perinatal Mental Health needs. Topics being discussed include:

- e-PIMH supporting rural and regional workforce to build capacity and support perinatal & infant mental health needs
- iCOPE Perinatal Mental Health Digital Screening – benefits and data opportunities
- Perinatal Mental Health Support via Telehealth – opportunities, barriers and challenges
- QLD Perinatal & Infant Mental Health strategies and the first 1000 days – linking through technology
- Challenges of Perinatal Mental Health Practitioner in Rural and Remote Australia



Rural & Regional Maternity Services

This SIG continues to support managers and clinical leaders from rural and regional maternity services to share challenges, resources, and innovations. It aims to assist small and/or rural health services to develop their service delivery options for women & children. Areas of interest have included:

- iCOPE Perinatal Mental Health Digital Screening – benefits and funding opportunities
- The history of rural midwifery - our current Models of Care and the implication on Rural midwifery and future directions.
- Quality of experiences for women and families - the First 1000 days – meeting child's needs and optimizing child attachment and development
- WHA National Collaborative - 3rd & 4th Degree Tears insights and significant improvements: the agility of rural services to adopt & reliably deliver high quality care through quality improvement projects



Safety & Quality in Maternity Care

This is a multidisciplinary group of obstetricians, midwives and quality & safety experts who come together to discuss clinical benchmarking data, research insights and clinical practice issues with a view to improving the safety and quality of care provided to women and newborns. Discussions have focused on:

- Induction of Labour – rising rates, variation in practice & processes to enhance the reliability of evidence based decision making when recommending & booking induction for women
- The prevention and management of PPH including iron infusions, pharmacology and surgical management
- The impact on women of severe PPH and the important role of debriefs in preventing or minimising the experience of trauma at the time and for subsequent pregnancies
- Introduction of changes in criteria for the testing and diagnosis of gestational diabetes
- Variation in rates of early planned caesarean section without medical or obstetric indication



Large Tertiary Services Executive Leaders Network

This network supports the Chief Executives and other senior executives of the tertiary, Maternity Newborns and Women's Hospitals from across Australia to come together to share insights & know-how related to a wide range of issues relevant to the management of these large and complex services. The group meets face to face twice a year to share presentations with one another about innovations, as well as discussing strategies for addressing common challenges.

zoom

Hot Topics Webinars

Shifting the Reactive Paradigm: Creating Resilient Health Systems **Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite, Founding Director of the Australian Institute of Healthcare Innovations, Macquarie University**

- Safety I – where the number of adverse outcomes is as low as possible - trying to make sure things don't go wrong
- Safety II – where the number of acceptable outcomes is as high as possible- trying to make sure things go right
- Few people have ever looked at why things go right so often. Can we shift the emphasis to a more positive approach? To learn what we can from what goes right & invest in strengthening those systems.



To join our members community visit:
<https://members.wcha.asn.au/user/login>

WHA Annual Face to Face Meetings



In addition to regular Web Conferences for each SIG, WHA hosts a number of face to face meetings each year. WHA Meetings enable your staff to learn from experts, network with peers and learn from each other.

Meetings that are normally held during the year include:

Directors of Nursing & Midwifery Meeting	Held during September
Rural & Regional Maternity Services Meeting	Held during September
WHA Safety & Quality Meeting	Held during November

COVID-19 Updates

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, WHA has reluctantly decided to suspend the WHA Face to Face Insight Forums for this year until it is safe to deliver.

This year we will be planning alternative ways for our community to connect and share innovations through virtual meetings and hosted web conferences.

Visit our website for more information: <https://women.wcha.asn.au/events>





WHA National Collaborative

Supporting change through collaborative quality improvement



Through 2018 WHA supported 28 maternity services to work together to reduce their rates of third-and-fourth-degree perineal tears.

Working Together

This unique partnership brought together experts in improvement science with maternity clinicians and leaders who are passionate about improving outcomes for women.

Teams from twenty-eight maternity services from tertiary to rural across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia participated.

Teams met on a monthly basis and received access to weekly phone calls with a trained Improvement Advisor. In

addition, teams attended Learning Sessions, which were interactive and designed to support participating teams develop their understanding and capacity in improvement science, to develop change strategies and consolidate reliable system design.

Feedback from the sessions was excellent with particular regard for the International Keynote speaker Dr Dharmesh Kapoor, who delivered two world class presentations on the history, current evidence and best practice in the management of perineal trauma.





The Collaborative project was in partnership with the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC), and with the support of Safer Care Victoria and the Clinical Excellence Division of Queensland Health.



This project drew upon the methodology for collaborative quality improvement (QI) developed over many years by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI). The project not only aimed to reduce rates of perineal tears but also supported services to learn QI methodology that could be applied to other areas within their services.

A Quality Improvement Educational Curriculum was designed and delivered involving:

- Three face to face Learning sessions.
- Active teaching and guidance during 8 monthly coaching sessions.
- The opportunity for weekly teaching calls.



The Collaborative was successful in reducing rates of perineal tears across the country with 473 fewer women sustaining a 3rd or 4th degree tear in participating services.





WHA Advocacy

WHA has continued to actively advocate to key government agencies on issues relevant to women's healthcare and service providers. We are grateful to all members who have so generously donated their expertise to WHA's advocacy on behalf of the sector. WHA continues to be a respected player in national policy making circles and the views and advice of its members are seriously considered.

Advocacy on behalf of members on key issues affecting the provision of maternity and women's health services continues to be a strategic priority for WHA. WHA has prepared the following submissions over the past 12 months:

- Development of the Australian National Breastfeeding Strategy
- Designing the National Digital Pregnancy Health Record
- Australian Non-Admitted Care Classification Development
- Developing a National Strategic Approach to Maternity Services
- Review of the Pregnancy Care Guidelines
- Recommendations and Supporting Documentation for the updated Guideline on Respectful and Supportive Perinatal Bereavement Care (PSANZ)
- Australian Refined Diagnostic Related Groups (AR-DRG) classification Version 10.0
- Contributed to a joint Collaborative response on the Still Birth National Action Plan





WHA has provided 3 representatives for the Australian National Breastfeeding Strategy – stakeholder consultation. WHA is also currently represented by Barb Vernon on the IHPA Advisory Committee on Bundled Maternity Payments.





The WHA Members Online Community area includes:

- Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- Hospital Directory
- Find a Peer
- Upcoming Events
- Events Resources
- Webinar Recordings
- Member Forum Posts
- MGP Toolkit
- Upload Benchmarking Data

We encourage members to share innovations, collaborate and problem solve within our secure online community.

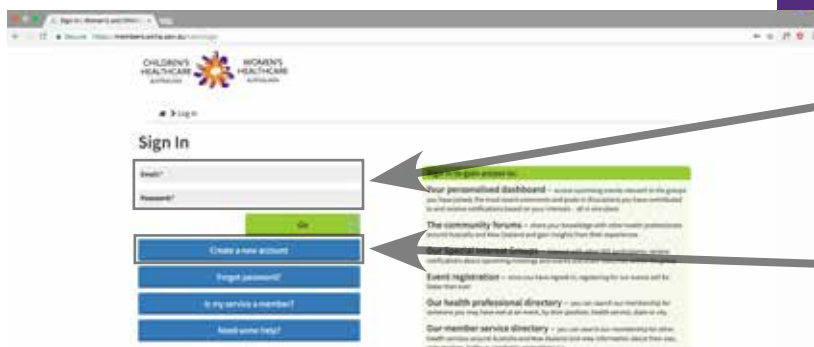


Accessing the Members Community



Step 1

On the website click 'Login'



Step 2

Type in your email address and password then click 'Go'

OR

Click 'Create a new account' if you don't have an account





Special Interest Groups

The Special Interest Groups (SIGs) area in the Members Community is easy to access and is a place where information and resources can be shared between contributors.



To get to the SIGs, simply click 'Special Interest Groups'.



To find out more about a SIG, click on one.



Click 'subscribe' to join a SIG.

Each SIG contains multiple discussion boards.





How to Connect

1. Contact the WHA Office

Contact the WHA office to discuss our member services and what being a WHA member could mean for your hospital. You can phone, email or visit our website.

2. Share this information with your staff

See what your staff think! Some of your staff will jump at the networking opportunities, others will be interested in the benchmarking data, while more still will thank you for access to our events!

3. Site Visit

Sometimes the best way to get what you need is to meet face to face. Here at WHA we recognise that often the best interactions happen in person, so we aim to visit our members, and prospective new members as often as possible. Let us know you are interested and we will make every attempt to come and visit you soon.

4. Apply for Membership

Now that you know what you are missing, don't delay! We have included an application form on page 31 of this booklet so you can start reaping the rewards of WHA membership as soon as possible. If you would like an electronic version of this form, simply email us at admin2018@wcha.asn.au and we will send you an electronic copy.





New members receive a 10% discount for the first year of membership!



Membership Category		# Births p.a.	2020-21 Fee \$ (excl GST)
Associate		-	800
Small	1	< 500	1,350
	2	500-1,000	2,700
	3	1,001-1,500	4,720
	4	1,501-2,000	6,730
Medium	1	2,001-2,500	8,770
	2	2,501-3,000	10,800
	3	3,001-3,500	12,810
	4	3,501-4,000	14,820
Large	1	4,001-5,000	16,820
	2	5,001-6,000	18,840
	3	6,001-7,000	21,530
	4	7,001-8,000	24,210
Very Large	1	8,001-9,000	26,920
	2	9,001-10,000	29,600
	3	10,001-11,000	32,300
	4	> 11,000	34,980

How to join & pricing

1. Complete the Application Form (page 31)

This provides us with information about your service, such as the number of births, number of staff, level/ type of facility and key personnel and contacts with the organisation.

2. Invoice for Membership

Once your application is received you will receive an invoice for membership. Our membership fees are based on the annual number of births that the facility supported for the previous financial year (pricing structure left).

3. Engagement in Member Services

Our dedicated team will contact your staff to begin engagement with our benchmarking services, networking opportunities, events, education and more!

Hospitals managed under a Local Health Network or District Health Board may aggregate their births and join as a member under the appropriate Membership Category. This makes membership very affordable for even very small maternity and women's health services.





Application to Join Women's Healthcare Australasia

WHA is a peak not-for-profit body for health services providing health care to women in Australia and New Zealand. Our vision is to enhance the health and wellbeing of women through supporting women's hospitals and health services to achieve excellence in clinical care.

We achieve this through:

- Identifying best practice through performance benchmarking among members.
- Supporting the sharing of information and expertise on health service delivery and quality improvement through member networking.
- Showcasing innovations that improve clinical outcomes for women (through webinars, teleconferences and face-to-face meetings).
- Advocacy to governments and other stakeholders on issues of common interest to members.

Membership with WHA is open to any health service in Australia or New Zealand providing maternity care.

Name of Local Health Network or District	
Name(s) of hospitals to be included in WHA Membership	Hospital 1: Hospital 2: Hospital 3:
Total Number of births p.a. NB: please indicate number of births p.a. at each hospital in your LHN/LHD that will be covered by this membership. These figures will be verified against data submitted & invoices adjusted as appropriate	Hospital 1: Hospital 2: Hospital 3:
Principal Representative Please identify the person willing to become the WHA Principal Representative for your health service. This person will have voting rights for your service at WHA AGMs, and be the key contact WHA will approach for advice about engaging with your health service.	Name: Position: Email: Phone:
Alternative Principal Representative This person will be contacted in the event that the Principal Representative is away/unavailable.	Name: Position: Email: Phone:
Briefly describe your service: WHA is interested to know the range of services offered by your service. Please tick and complete relevant services your hospital/health service provides.	<input type="checkbox"/> Maternity Ward (No. beds: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Maternity ED (Area: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Surgery <input type="checkbox"/> Special Care Nursery (No. cots: _____)
Membership Category Please see membership categories attached (reverse/attached page)	I authorise an invoice to be sent to my hospital/LHN for WHA Membership in the appropriate membership category for the number of births indicated above. I confirm that WHA reserves the right to adjust the membership category & invoice accordingly based on data received from the health service.
Person applying for membership on behalf of the hospital/health service Only complete if different from the Principal Representative	Name: Position: Email: Phone:
Invoice Contact If different from above	Name: Email:

- I confirm I am authorised to request membership on behalf of my hospital/ health service.
- The hospital understands that membership is considered ongoing. Cancellation for a financial year requires 3 months advance written notice (prior to the commencement of the financial year).
- I confirm that on membership sign up membership fees become payable within 30 days.

Thank you for your interest in WHA. Please complete this form and return to us at:
Email: admin2018@wcha.asn.au or PO Box 194 Mitchell ACT 2911

Signature: _____ Date: _____



WOMEN'S
HEALTHCARE

AUSTRALASIA