



Statewide Obstetric Shared Care Program Newsletter April 2007

OSC Staff Changes

Welcome to **Dr Suzi Pedler** who has joined the OSC Program as GP Advisor for the Adelaide North East Division of General Practice. Suzi can be contacted at the division on 08 8397 9000 or email spedler@anedgp.com.au.

Sadly **Dr Jane Kitchen** has resigned from her position as OSC Rural GP Advisor. We would like to thank Jane for all the wonderful work she has done for the program and we will miss her helpful and friendly commitment to obstetric shared care. We wish her all the best for the future.

Gladly Midwife **Jenny Miller** is not leaving us however she will now be working solely out of the Lyell McEwin Health Service. We would like to thank Jenny for all of her hard work at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital over many years. Jenny can be contacted on 8182 9000, pager 6470 or email jennifer.miller@nwahs.sa.gov.au.

Protocols

Pregnancy Hand Held Record

Please note that it is crucial that the hand held record is completed and that hard copies of results are provided at the first presentation to hospital. Women will be turned down for OSC at the hospitals if this information is not provided.

1st Trimester Screening

There has been much confusion over the last few months about where women are able to access 1st trimester screening facilities. The issue is complex and involves hospital, radiology companies and both state and commonwealth government funding. The most desirable scenario would be that all women could be offered this screening either in the hospital setting, or privately with the Medicare rebate easily accessible for all women.

Please see below a list of what services are currently being offered at each of the participating SA OSC public hospitals. This information is of course liable to change without notice.

Flinders Medical Centre	Currently referring all 1st trimester screens to private clinics. All morphology and 2nd trimester screens are being conducted in-house.
Gawler Health Service	1st and 2 nd trimester screening and morphology scans currently available through Bensons Radiology located at Gawler Health Service.
Lyell McEwin Hospital	1st and 2 nd trimester screening and morphology scans currently available in-house at the Lyell McEwin.
Modbury Public Hospital	1st and 2 nd trimester screening and morphology scans currently available in-house at MPH.
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	1st and 2nd trimester screening and morphology scans currently available in-house at the QEH.
Women's & Children's Hospital	All nuchal-translucency and low-risk morphology scans are currently being referred to private clinics. Any morphology ultrasounds being performed at WCH are currently unable to be put on video or DVD.

Intra-Uterine Growth Restriction

Failure to diagnose intra-uterine growth restriction (IUGR) remains a problem with our antenatal care. The Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive Medicine at Flinders Medical Centre has introduced guidelines for the diagnosis of IUGR which have been shown to increase the accuracy of diagnosis.

We believe that these guidelines are applicable to all providers of Obstetric Shared Care in South Australia. Please take the time to read these points and implement in your practice.

1. Management of Symphysio-Fundal Height (SFH)

- The SFH is to be routinely measured in centimetres with a tape measure using the technique described in the South Australian Pregnancy Record ("Symphysio-fundal chart". "Guidelines").
- The SFH is to be routinely recorded in the box marked "Fundal height (cms)" in the "Progress notes".
- The SFH is also to be routinely and serially plotted on the "Symphysio-fundal chart".

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These measurements and recordings should be made at all routine and non-routine antenatal consultations and on a weekly basis for inpatients.

2. Interpretation of single and serial SFH measurements
 - (a) Individual recordings of SFH below the tenth percentile on the SFH chart should initially be investigated with ultrasound.
 - (b) Serial recordings of the SFH which significantly cross percentile lines, irrespective of the particular percentile reached, should be investigated with ultrasound.
 - (c) Obstetric review is indicated when IUGR is suspected from SFH measurements.

Rotavirus Immunisation

The Australian Government will provide \$124.4 million over the next five years to include free Rotavirus vaccines on the National Immunisation Program. Two Rotavirus vaccines will be included on the National Immunisation Program, Rotarix from GlaxoSmithKline and RotaTeq from CSL Limited. The new vaccine will be given orally to babies from 2 - 6 months of age, commencing in July 2007. All babies born from 1 May 2007 will be eligible for the free vaccine. Two or three doses, depending on the brand administered, will generally be given at the same time as other immunisations at 2, 4 & 6 months of age. Parents, carers and immunisation providers should contact their state or territory health department for further information.

End of Triennium

Please note that 2007 is the last year in the RACGP 05-07 Triennium. All GPs practicing OSC in South Australia must make sure that they have completed the basic requirements for OSC Accreditation by the end of this year; that is, one full day accreditation seminar or two divisional CPD events. There are many CPD events scheduled for 2007 as well as another two full day accreditation seminars.

Feedback from March 24 Accreditation Seminar

The 2007 Urban Accreditation Seminar was held on Saturday, March 24, at the Women's & Children's Hospital. Over 100 GPs attended the event which was very well received. GPs, sponsors and speakers all commented that the day was one of the most successful OSC seminars so far. Due to the popularity of this event, and the looming end of triennium, a second urban accreditation seminar is scheduled to be held in conjunction with the Southern Division of General Practice at Flinders Medical Centre in August.

Positions Vacant!

OSC Rural GP Advisor

The Obstetric Shared Care Program is currently looking for a rural GP interested in being our Rural GP Advisor. Main commitments include attending our six-weekly Operations and CPD meetings on a Friday morning, attending our annual full-day accreditation seminars and providing advice and assistance on operational Obstetric Shared Care matters. If you are an enthusiastic rural GP who is committed to improving antenatal and postnatal services in rural areas and promoting OSC then please call Emma Hellams, Program Coordinator, on 8271 8988.

OSC ANDGP GP Advisor

The OSC GP Advisor position at Adelaide Northern Division of General Practice is currently vacant. If you are an enthusiastic GP who has an interest in Obstetric Shared Care, is working in the Adelaide Northern Division and is keen to promote OSC and GP training in your division then please contact the Adelaide Northern Division of General Practice on 8252 9444.

CPD 2007 – please email emma.hellams@sadi.org.au for more information			
March 24	ACEDGP/WCH	Accreditation	Full Day
April 3	AWGPN/TQEH	Diabetes in Pregnancy	
May 28	SDGP/FMC	IUGR and Cholestasis of Pregnancy	
July	ANDGP/LMHS	Infectious Diseases in Pregnancy	
August 4	SDGP	Accreditation Seminar	Full Day
August 8	AWGPN/TQEH	Management of Pre and Early pregnancy	
September 5	ACEDGP/WCH	Neonatal issues	
September	ANEDGP/MPH	Common Problems in Pregnancy	
September 8	YPDGP	Rural Accreditation	Full Day
November	ANDGP/LMHS	Thrombophilia & Medical Conditions	

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