2018 Australian Clinical Practice Guidelines - Pregnancy Care

The Pregnancy Care Guidelines (Australian Government Department of Health) - designed to provide high-quality, evidence-based antenatal care to healthy pregnant women - are intended for all health professionals including midwives, obstetricians, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers and allied health professionals. For accompanying documents see this page.

This guideline has been added to our Clinical Guidelines page.

Family, Domestic & Sexual Violence in Australia (AIHW 2018)

Family, domestic and sexual violence in Australia 2018 explores the extent, impact and cost of this major health and welfare issue that mainly affects women and children. Indigenous women, young women and pregnant women are particularly at risk.

Find more recent AIHW reports on our Health Statistics page.
Staff publications

The full text of these recent staff publications is displayed in print in the Library and linked to in the Staff Publications page where possible:

There are 12 new staff publications!

Go to: **AA - WNHS / Most Recent Staff Publications / KEMH**

on our **Staff Publications** page!

We have completed staff publication records for 2017, 2016 and most of 2015 and will continue to work backwards as well as adding new research in 2018 when it appears! If we have missed your publication or need to change your details please **Let Us Know**!

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Featured Library Resource

**Journal Alerts Guide**

Have you seen our **Journal Alerts guide** recently? We have been busy updating the RSS feeds compromised by publisher and database changes. This guide provides links to the most recent journal literature on topics / journal table of contents relevant to Women and Newborn Health. If you would like a personalised list of journal or subject alerts see the **JournalTOCs** tab or **Contact Us**
New Books

New Ebooks!
Access these books online from the links provided (or the Library catalogue)

Guidelines for perinatal care (AAP, 8th ed)

PCEP: Perinatal Continuing Education Program. Book III, neonatal care (3rd ed)

Guidelines for air and ground transport of neonatal and pediatric patients (AAP, 4th ed)

Abernathy’s surgical secrets (7th ed)

Streptococcus pyogenes: Basic Biology to Clinical Manifestations

PCEP: Perinatal Continuing Education Program. Book IV, specialized newborn care (3rd ed)

Plotkin’s vaccines (7th ed)
New Print Books!

A complete list of new books in the medical library is available on the [website](#) (see ‘Announcements’)

- **A guide to survivorship for women who have ovarian cancer (2nd ed)**
- **The body remembers: volume 2 revolutionizing trauma treatment**
- **Principles of trauma therapy: a guide to symptoms, evaluation and treatment (2nd ed, DSM-5)**
- **Midwifery essentials: infant feeding, volume 5**
- **Midwifery essentials (2nd ed., Australian)**
- **Managing improvement in healthcare: attaining, sustaining and spreading quality**
- **Emery’s elements of medical genetics (15th ed)**
- **New clinical genetics 3 (3rd ed)**
News & Events from the WNHL

Pamphlet service

Below are a few pamphlets new to the Women & Newborn Health Library

Kaya, Wanju Wanju Nidja Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar (Hello, Welcome to Whadjuk Noongar Country)

Various Continence Foundation of Australia booklets

Health Events happening in March / April

21 March  
World Down Syndrome day

26th March  
Purple Day (epilepsy)

7th April  
World Health Day
New books from the WNHL

**The Prenatal Bombshell**: help and hope when continuing or ending a precious pregnancy after an abnormal diagnosis

**Nurture**: a modern guide to pregnancy, birth, early motherhood—and trusting yourself and your body

**Grow!**: personal development for parents

**Happy Together**: using the science of positive psychology to build love that lasts

**Hypnosis for Childbirth**

**Caesarean birth - calm & relaxed**
Articles of Interest

Clinics reviews & themed journal issues:

Update on neonatal extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (Seminars in Perinatology)

Topics of interest in general obstetrics and gynecology (Clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology)

Adolescent and pediatric gynecology (Best Practice & Research: Clinical Obstetrics & Gynaecology)

Inborn Errors of Metabolism (Pediatric Clinics of North America)

Hormones in milk – new directions (Best Practice & Research: Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism)

Gut microbiome in health and disease (Best Practice & Research: Clinical Gastroenterology)

New and updated Cochrane reviews:

Beta-blockers for prevention and treatment of retinopathy of prematurity in preterm infants (new & highlighted)
Limited evidence of low-to-moderate quality suggests that prophylactic administration of oral beta-blockers might reduce progression towards stage 3 ROP and decrease the need for anti-VEGF agents or laser therapy. However, there is insufficient evidence due to high risk of bias in two included trials and the lack of long-term functional outcomes.

Pulse oximetry screening for critical congenital heart defects (new & highlighted)
Current evidence supports the introduction of routine screening for CCHD in asymptomatic newborns before discharge from the well-baby nursery.

Antibiotics at the time of removal of central venous catheter to reduce morbidity and mortality in newborn infants (new)
Randomised controlled trials have provided inadequate evidence for assessment of the efficacy or safety of antibiotics given at the time of CVC removal.

Higher versus lower amino acid intake in parenteral nutrition for newborn infants (new)
Low-quality evidence suggests that higher AA intake in parenteral nutrition does not affect mortality. Very low-quality evidence suggests that higher AA intake reduces the incidence of postnatal growth failure.
Evidence was insufficient to show an effect on neurodevelopment.

Immunoglobulin for alloimmune hemolytic disease in neonates (updated)
Although overall results show a significant reduction in the need for exchange transfusion in infants treated with IVIg, the applicability of the results is limited because of low to very low quality of evidence.

Laryngeal mask airway versus bag-mask ventilation or endotracheal intubation for neonatal resuscitation (conclusions changed)
LMA can achieve effective ventilation during neonatal resuscitation in a time frame consistent with current neonatal resuscitation guidelines. Most studies enrolled infants with birth weight over 1500 g or 34 or more weeks' gestation.

The Neonatal Behavioral Assessment Scale (NBAS) and Newborn Behavioral Observations (NBO) system for supporting caregivers and improving outcomes in caregivers and their infants (new)
There is currently only very low-quality evidence for the effectiveness of the NBAS and NBO in terms of improving parent-infant interaction for mostly low-risk, first-time caregivers and their infants. Further research is underway regarding the effectiveness of the NBO and is necessary to corroborate these results.

Antibiotics for treating gonorrhoea in pregnancy (new)
This Cochrane Review found high levels of cure of gonococcal infections in pregnancy with the given antibiotic regimens. However, the evidence in this review is inconclusive as it does not support one particular regimen over another and is poor quality / high risk of bias.

Planned birth at or near term for improving health outcomes for pregnant women with pre-existing diabetes and their infants (new)
Unable to reach any conclusions due to lack of evidence demonstrating the urgent need for high-quality trials evaluating the effectiveness of planned birth at or near term gestation for pregnant women with pre-existing (Type 1 or Type 2) diabetes compared with an expectant approach.

Surgery for women with posterior compartment prolapse (new)
Transvaginal repair may be more effective than transanal repair for posterior wall prolapse in preventing recurrence of prolapse, in the light of both objective and subjective measures. However, there was limited data on adverse effects. Evidence does not support the utilisation of any mesh or graft materials at the time of posterior vaginal repair.

Metabolomics for improving pregnancy outcomes in women undergoing assisted reproductive technologies (updated)
According to current trials in women undergoing ART, there is no evidence to show that metabolomic assessment of embryos before implantation has any meaningful effect on rates of live birth, ongoing pregnancy, miscarriage, multiple pregnancy, ectopic pregnancy or foetal abnormalities.

Application of seminal plasma to female genital tract prior to embryo transfer in assisted reproductive technology cycles (IVF, ICSI and frozen embryo transfer) (updated)
Insufficient evidence to determine whether there was a difference between the seminal plasma and the standard ART group in rates of live birth (low-quality evidence) or miscarriage (low-quality evidence).

Non-invasive brain stimulation techniques for chronic pain (updated)
There is very low-quality evidence that single doses of high-frequency rTMS of the motor cortex and tDCS may have short-term effects on chronic pain and quality of life but multiple sources of bias exist that may have influenced the observed effects.

Perioperative beta-blockers for preventing surgery-related mortality and morbidity (conclusions changed)
According to these findings, perioperative application of beta-blockers still plays a pivotal role in cardiac
surgery, as they can substantially reduce the high burden of supraventricular and ventricular arrhythmias in the aftermath of surgery. In non-cardiac surgery, evidence shows an association of beta-blockers with increased all-cause mortality.

Evidently Cochrane:

What’s on the menu? Can nutritional labelling reduce our calorie intake?
Sarah Chapman looks at a new Cochrane Review with evidence on whether displaying calories on menus and next to food in cafes can influence our choices and reduce our calorie intake.

Life after stroke: a special series from Cochrane UK
Sarah Chapman introduces #LifeAfterStroke, Cochrane UK’s special series of blogs, and other material, that will include Cochrane evidence, ongoing research and the perspectives of stroke survivors, researchers and health professionals on life after stroke.

Other items of interest:

Prestigious Science Journals Struggle to Reach Even Average Reliability (Frontiers in Human Neuroscience)
According to this review, data suggests that the methodological quality of scientific experiments does not increase with the increasing rank of the journal.

What birthweight percentile is associated with optimal perinatal mortality and childhood education outcomes? (AJOG)
This large retrospective cohort study sought to quantify the association among birthweight percentile, perinatal mortality, and educational outcomes and to determine the optimal birthweight percentile for those outcomes in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australian children.

Magnetic resonance imaging is often misleading when used as an adjunct to ultrasound in the management of placenta accreta spectrum disorders (AJOG)
In this study of 78 patients a change in diagnosis that could potentially alter clinical management occurred in 28 (36%) cases. Magnetic resonance imaging correctly changed the diagnosis in 15 (19%), and correctly confirmed the diagnosis in 34 (44%); but resulted in an incorrect change in diagnosis in 13 (17%), and an incorrect confirmation of ultrasound diagnosis in 15 (21%).

National Partnership for Maternal Safety: Consensus Bundle on Safe Reduction of Primary Cesarean Births—Supporting Intended Vaginal Births (Obstetrics & Gynecology)
Cesarean births and associated morbidity and mortality have reached near epidemic proportions. The National Partnership for Maternal Safety under the guidance of the Council on Patient Safety in Women's Health Care responded by developing a patient safety bundle to reduce the number of primary cesarean births.

Postpartum venous thromboembolism prophylaxis may cause more harm than benefit: a critical analysis of international guidelines through an evidence-based lens (BJOG)
This paper critically reviews the evidence and quantifies the benefit and harm from low-molecular-weight heparin in postpartum women with common risk factors.

Barriers to accessing cancer services amongst Indigenous Australians are widely reported. Through qualitative interviews, this article examines factors that assist Indigenous Australians to have positive cancer experiences.

Characterizing gestational weight gain in a cohort of Indigenous Australian women (Midwifery)

The rate of adequate gestational weight gain in this cohort of 110 pregnant women was very low (15%). 32% of women had inadequate weight gain and 54% had excessive weight gain.

Association of Persistent and Severe Postnatal Depression With Child Outcomes (JAMA Psychiatry)

Using data from the British Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC) this article found that persistent and severe PND substantially raises the risk for adverse outcome on all child measures.

A systematic review and meta-analysis of interpersonal psychotherapy for perinatal women (Journal of Affective Disorders)

IPT is clearly effective for treating depressive symptoms and promising as a treatment for anxiety and improving interpersonal functioning.

Trends in comorbidity, acuity, and maternal risk associated with preeclampsia across obstetric volume settings (Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine)

This large (36,985,729 deliveries) retrospective cohort analysis found that preeclampsia is increasing across obstetric care settings with preeclamptic patients demonstrating increasing comorbid risk, increased risk for severe morbidity, and more frequent need for treatment of acute hypertension.

SNAP-II for prediction of mortality and morbidity in extremely preterm infants (Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine)

This Canadian retrospective observational study of 9240 infants born at 22–28 weeks’ gestation found that SNAP-II (Score of Neonatal Acute Physiology) cut-offs were independently associated with each adverse outcome and using the proposed SNAP-II cut-offs improved the performance of predictive models for certain short-term outcomes.

Risk of preterm delivery and small-for-gestational-age births in women with autoimmune disease using biologics before or during pregnancy: a population-based cohort study (BMJ: Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases)

The population-based data analysed suggest that the use of biologics before and during pregnancy is not associated with an increased risk of preterm delivery or SGA births.

Telephone follow-up after treatment for endometrial cancer: A qualitative study of patients' and clinical nurse specialists' experiences in the ENDCAT trial (European Journal of Oncology Nursing)

Telephone follow-up provided by clinical nurse specialists provides the care, information and support to enable women treated for endometrial cancer to self-manage and live well.

For more popular articles, see the Journal Alerts guide.