



IMPACT Network Report 2006/2007

*(Interdisciplinary Maternal Perinatal Australasian
Clinical Trials Network)*

IMPACT MEMBERSHIP

There are currently 376 members of the IMPACT Network.

IMPACT Committee 2006/7

The IMPACT Committee members for 2006/7 were as follows:

Jonathan Morris – Obstetrics (Chair),
Carmel Collins – Neonatal Nursing,
Caroline Crowther – Representing the WOMBAT Collaboration,
Vicki Flenady – Communications Officer,
Dell Horey – Consumer,
Carl Kuschel – Neonatologist,
Helen McLachlan – Midwifery,
Philippa Middleton – Other Perinatal,
Roger Smith – Basic Science

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS MARCH 2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Elections for IMPACT Committee positions will be conducted at the AGM 2006. A call for nominations for the following positions has been conducted through the IMPACT newsletter for the following positions: Neonatal Nursing, Neonatology, Other Perinatal, Basic Science and Communications Officer.

IMPACT WEBSITE UPDATE

IMPACT Network website has been updated. Please go to www.psanzimpact.org to access the website. From 2007 onwards the website will include abstracts and presentations from IMPACT workshops.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

EVIDENCE DISSEMINATION

IMPACT is exploring ways to facilitate the use of evidence in practice through making decision-aids and clinical practice guidelines more accessible on the IMPACT website. To inform this activity, IMPACT has undertaken a survey of maternity care clinicians across hospitals in Australia and New Zealand to identify the current level of activity in guidelines development and usage. The results of this web-based survey will be presented at the IMPACT meeting pre PSANZ Congress 2007.

REGISTRATION OF PERINATAL TRIALS

The Australian Clinical Trials Registry (ACTR) has been established at the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre as a National Register for clinical trials involving Australian researchers or Australian participants. Registration is free. An ACTR trial registration number will be accepted by those journals requiring that a trial must have been registered before it is published. Most trials previously registered in the Perinatal Trials Registry PTR are being registered on the ACTR. Once this is complete the PTR will be disbanded. The WOMBAT Collaboration is not duplicating the work of ACTR but you can find a summary of recent perinatal trials on the WOMBAT website

(www.wombatcollaboration.net). For further information on ACTR go to: www.actr.org.au or email: info@actr.org.au

WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

APRIL 2006 PRE PSANZ CONGRESS WORKSHOP

This meeting was well attended. The main workshop themes were:

An introduction to the WOMBAT Collaboration, its objectives, its place in the perinatal research environment, research gaps, practice gaps for the WOMBAT Collaboration (Caroline Crowther, Philippa Middleton, David Henderson-Smart and others).

Perinatal Clinical Trials in the Planning Stages: Investigators presented their planned trials for discussion.

COCHRANE WORK-IN APRIL 2006

IMPACT sponsored a Cochrane Work-In which was held on the Monday, 3 April 2006. The Work-In provided Cochrane review authors with an opportunity to work on protocols and/or reviews with the support of experienced review authors and editors.

THURSDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2006, SYDNEY

Norman Gregg Lecture theatre, Sydney University

This workshop focussed on the **implementing evidence into practice** through use of decision-aids and guidelines.

PLANNED WORKSHOPS

Saturday 31st March 2007, 1330 – 1700. Recruitment in clinical trials.

Joint session of IMPACT and WOMBAT (WOMen and Babies Wellbeing: Action through Trials).

Objectives of the session:

1. To provide an up-to-date assessment of literature on recruitment for perinatal trials and identify any gaps in the evidence base with opportunity for discussion
2. To identify issues relevant to estimating accrual rates to perinatal trials and seek to identify methods to improve this process
3. Based on the experience of participants discuss barriers to recruitment and develop solutions for use in the WOMBAT Collaboration



Sunday 1st April 2007, 0900-1300. Presentations of trials in the planning stages – Investigators are invited to present their trials for discussion and input by workshop participants.

COCHRANE WORK-IN APRIL 2007

IMPACT will again sponsor a Cochrane Work-In following the IMPACT meeting on Sunday 2nd April 2007.

May 4th, 2007

One-day symposium - Stillbirth Prevention: The role of fetal movement monitoring.

In collaboration with the PSANZ Perinatal Mortality Group and the recently established Australian and New Zealand Stillbirth Alliance (ANZSA). This one day symposium will focus on antenatal detection of the fetus and the role of fetal movement monitoring. Dr Frederik Froen MD, PhD, Researcher, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Oslo, Norway will be the Keynote Speaker. Dr Froen will present recent results from a large population based study in Norway on fetal movements. Discussion on future research models to address research gaps will be presented: RCT or quality assurance models?