

QUALITY AND SAFETY CHALLENGE 2012 FINAL PROJECT REPORT

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| Date: | 3rd August 2012 | |
| Project title: | Improving quality and safety in maternity services: can we improve prevention, detection and management of congenital abnormalities in pregnancy? | |
| Project Description: | Audit the quality of maternity care in 137 perinatal deaths associated with cardiac, central nervous system or chromosomal abnormalities. | |
| Contracted agency: | The Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee | |
| Key contact: | Professor Cindy Farquhar | |
| Best contact number: | Tele: +64 9 3737599 EXT 89493 | |
| Email: | c.farquhar@auckland.ac.nz | |
| What did you do? | 1. Collected the relevant clinical notes relating to the pregnancy | |
| | 2. Develop an audit tool | |
| | 3. Audit clinical notes | |
| | 4. Audit ultrasound images | |
| | 5. Analyse data and write report | |
| Why did you undertake these activities? | To determine whether there were any “quality gaps” in the provision of care, including prevention, diagnosis and treatment, which if closed, may reduce the numbers of perinatal deaths. | |
| What number of activities did you undertake | We audited the notes for 137 pregnancies that resulted in a congenital abnormality. We reviewed 106 sets of ultrasound images. | |
| What was your baseline position? | In 2010 in New Zealand there were 704 perinatal deaths, 211 (30%) due to congenital abnormalities. Given that such a large proportion of perinatal deaths are the result of congenital abnormalities, it was considered important to review the care of mothers of babies with congenital abnormalities in order to assess the potential to reduce perinatal deaths from this cause. | |
| What were your key deliverables and milestone date? | Deliverable | Milestone date |
| | Collection of health records. | 01/06/2012 |
| | Entering data. | 10/06/2012 |
| | Radiology audit | 05/07/2012 |
| | Data analysis. | 20/07/2012 |
| What were your key outcomes from this project? | 1. Audit of care during pregnancy for women who had a perinatal death associated with cardiac, central nervous system or chromosomal abnormalities. | |
| | 2. Identification of areas for potential improvement. | |
| | 3. Key recommendations for a variety of maternity care and service providers. | |

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| Measurement and evaluation activities conducted | Activity | Date completed |
| | Evaluate date of booking. | 15/7/12 |
| | Evaluate uptake of 1 st trimester screening. | 20/7/12 |
| | Monitor the perinatal mortality rate due to congenital abnormalities of the central nervous and cardiovascular systems or chromosomal abnormalities. | Ongoing. |
| What difference did you make? | Difference we saw | When we saw the difference |
| | Earlier booking and uptake of screening | Within the next 2 years |
| | Reduction in congenital abnormalities | Within the next 2 years |
| What problems occurred? | Problem | Anticipated Yes/No? |
| | Extended scope of project to include audit of ultrasound images delayed submission. | Yes |
| | LMC notes not available | No |
| Are there any things you would do differently? | Identified need for audit of ultrasound images earlier | |
| What are your recommendations out of this project for the longer term or for other health providers? | <p>All women should receive pre-conceptual counselling Folate use in women of reproductive age Education of the importance of booking before 10 weeks. Other recommendations were for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antenatal care • Antenatal Screening Programme • Documentation • Radiology services • Referral to specialist services • Enhancement of the current birth defects register | |
| If you could extend this project or do more in the future, what would you like to do next? | Review the pregnancy pathway of a wider range of women in New Zealand to see if there are any quality gaps in the pregnancy care of women who have a pregnancy associated with cardiac, central nervous system or chromosomal abnormalities that does not result in perinatal death. | |
| What was your projected budget for this project? | \$49, 000 | |
| What was your final spend on this project? | \$49, 000 | |
| What are the tools, processes or materials that are available for others to use? | When the report is published there will be recommendations available for a variety of health care providers including general practitioners, lead maternity carers, ultrasound service providers, screening services, the Ministry of Health and information for women considering pregnancy. | |

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| <p>Please confirm that you have provided a final report for the Commission on your project, its outcomes and recommendations/learnings for the future</p> | <p>We provided an electronic copy of the report on the 31st of July 2012.</p> |
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