

Nursing and Midwifery Services



Adj. Assoc. Prof. Alanna Geary
Executive Director Nursing and
Midwifery Services MNHHS



Prof. Joan Webster
Nursing Director
Research



Adj. Assoc. Prof. Robyn Fox
Nursing and Midwifery Director
Education



Mr Anthony Nesbit
Nursing Director
Patient Flow Unit

Overview

Women's and Newborn Services offer a wide and diverse range of healthcare services to women and their babies in Queensland. Our dedicated team delivers a high standard of quality care to assist achieving the best and most positive outcome for you and your family. We remain a leading force in health promotion whilst continuing to provide specialist care in Maternity, Neonatology, Gynaecology and Cancer Services.

2014 was another challenging year as the need for services across all departments grows increasingly complex and demanding. Despite this, we continue to maintain an active interest in research activities as well as the provision of multiple education programs for undergraduate and postgraduate health service professionals. To that end we maintain a strong connection with local universities including The University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, James Cook University and Central Queensland University and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (RANZCOG).

Key departments

- » Patient Flow Unit
 - Community Interface Services
 - After-hours Hospital Management
 - Nursing Relief Pool
 - Patient Transport Unit
 - Operational Patient Flow Management Services
 - Transit Care Centre (Transit Lounge and Flex Bed Unit)
- » Workforce Planning Unit
- » Workforce Development Education Unit
- » Research and Development Unit

Executive and directing staff

Adj. Assoc. Prof. Alanna Geary
Executive Director Nursing and Midwifery
Services

Prof. Joan Webster
Nursing Director, Research
Adj. Assoc. Prof. Robyn Fox PhD FCNA
Nursing and Midwifery Director, Education

Mr Anthony Nesbit
Nursing Director, Patient Flow Unit

Mr Ben Ballard
Assistant Nursing Director, Workforce Planning
Unit

Ms Mary Fenn
Assistant Nursing Director, Community Interface

Ms Katrina Kalmar
Assistant Nursing Director, Operational Patient
Flows

Ms Christine Burrige
Assistant Nursing Director, Education Service
Coordination
Women's and Newborn Services and Mental
Health Services

Dr Catriona Booker
Assistant Nursing Director, Education Service
Coordination
Surgery and Perioperative Services and Cancer
Care Services

Nursing Services



Prof. Joan Webster
Director
Nursing Services

Overview

About this service: The Nursing Services' Research and Development Unit, is responsible for promoting a culture of research excellence across service lines. Our focus is to work with clinicians in the generation and utilization of evidence to inform policy and practice. We conduct clinically driven, high quality funded research, which is internationally recognised. Honorary Research Fellows, from several universities, also contribute to the research output of the Unit.

Highlights of 2014: We managed several NHMRC funded new or on-going, multi-site trials, which aim to provide clinical and cost effective evidence for patient care. These trials involved close collaboration with Griffith University, the University of Queensland and a number of other national and international universities who cooperate in a multidisciplinary team that has been working well together and building capacity for the past ten years. Partner hospitals in Queensland include the Princess Alexandra Hospital, The Prince Charles Hospital, the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital, Sunshine Coast University Hospital, the Mater Hospital, the Gold Coast Hospital and Ipswich hospital. Our pre-clinical research to inform the development of future interventions, has led to strong links with the microbiology laboratory at the UQCCR. Apart from the large, multi-centre trials, a number of local studies were also undertaken in 2014.

New, external research funding for the year exceeded \$2,000,000; staff from the Unit published 19 peer reviewed papers, and were invited to present papers at several international conferences. First prize was awarded for a presentation at the 17th Annual European Pressure Ulcer Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden. An invitation to the join Guideline Development Group for the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Group and the Pan Pacific Pressure Injury Alliance, the most influential international group for pressure ulcer prevention and management was also received.

Benefits for clinical practice: During the year we completed a study examining the effect of frequent bed moves on patient outcomes. Understanding the adverse effect of frequent moves has prompted interventions aimed at reducing multiple bed moves and raises questions around many contemporary models of care and practices occurring broadly across hospitals nationally and internationally. Consumer participation is one of the Australian Safety and Quality Health Service Standards. So, in 2014 we conducted a multi-centre randomised controlled trial examining the effect of partnering with patients to test a 'prevention care-bundle' on the development of pressure injuries. In addition, our research program around vascular access, the most common procedure performed in clinical practice, is ongoing. Results of our trials in this area have been extremely influential and have been incorporated in important international clinical guidelines such as the national infection prevention guidelines of the UK (epic3 Guidelines); USA Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and a highly cited Cochrane review. We are also conducting a prospective cohort study, which will provide very useful insights into potentially modifiable risk factors for peripheral intravenous catheter failure. This study has the potential to reduce patient discomfort and the costs associated with catheter re-sites. Collaboration with a team at QUT, investigating issues around patient assessment, has improved our understanding of the nurses' role in this area.



Research staff

Name	Qualifications	Position	Interests/specialities
Prof Joan Webster	RN, BA	Nursing Director, Research	testing the effectiveness of healthcare interventions, evidence- based practice
Dr Carol Reid	RN, PhD	Nurse Researcher	effectiveness of nursing interventions, evidence based practice, nursing workforce, sexual health and HIV, alcohol and drug, community health
Nicole Marsh	RN BN	Senior Project Officer	testing the effectiveness of healthcare interventions, especially IV access related research.
		Director, Centre for Clinical Nursing	health services research, acute care nursing, advanced practice nursing service

Supervised post-graduate research students

Name	Current studies University; (duration)	Research topic
Marsh, N.	PhD Griffith Universtiy (2014-2016)	A multi-modal study of catheter failure (systematic review, prospective cohort study and a pilot randomised controlled trial)

Awards and achievements

Award	Event	Recipient
First prize for research	17th Annual European Pressure Ulcer Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden. Aug 27th-29th 2014	Webster, J.
Winner. Safe practice and Environment award	Quarries award 2014	Webster, J. and Marsh, N.
Winner. Consumer engagement project	Quarries award 2014	Webster, J., Nesbit, A., Fenn, M.
Best Health Services Publication of 2014 for Cost-effectiveness analysis of clinically-indicated versus routine replacement of peripheral intravenous catheters. Applied Health Economics and Health Policy. 2014. 12 (1): 51-58.	Australian Centre for Health Services Innovation (AusHSI)	Tuffaha, HW., Rickard, CM., Webster, J., Marsh, N., Gordon, L., Wallis, M., Scuffham, P.

Research grants

Investigators <small>*RBWH staff; bold, this department</small>	Project title	Granting body and scheme	Amount awarded (years)
Webster, J*, Marsh, N*, Choudry, N., Rickard, C.	Does adding Biopatch to central line dressings reduce the incidence of catheter related bacteraemia?	Griffith University Project	\$12,000 (2014)
Gillespie, B., Chaboyer, W., Webster, J* , Elwood, D., Whitty, J., Thalib, L., Cullum, N.	ADding negative pRESSure to improve heallNG (the DRESSING trial).	NHMRC Project	\$2,285,351 (2014 – 2018)
Webster, J* , Rickard, C., Keogh, S., Tuffaha, H., Marsh, N*.	REplacing PeripheraL intrAvenous CathEters (REPLACE study)	Griffith Health Institute Project and Top Up	\$14,000 and \$15,000 (2014)
Kildea, S., Kruske, S., Tracy, S., Clifford, A., Nelson, C., Roe,Y., West, R., Webster, J* .	Birthing in our Improving maternal infant health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and infants	NHMRC Partnership	\$1,297,911 (2014-2018)

Research grants

Investigators <small>*RBWH staff; bold, this department</small>	Project title	Granting body and scheme	Amount awarded (years)
Chaboyer, W., Bucknal, T., Webster, J* , McInnes, L., Banks, M*, Wallis, M., Gillespie, B., Whitty, J., Thalib, L., Cullum, N.	INTroducing A Care bundle To prevent pressure injury (the INTACT trial)	NHMRC Project	\$1,071,076 (2014-2015)
Nesbit, T*. New, K*, Webster, J*.	The PATH study	Private Practice Trust Fund Project	\$40,000 (2014)
Rickard, C., Fraser, J., Webster, J* , Marshall, A., Young, J., Playford, EG., McMillan, D., McGrail, M., Gowardman, J., Thom, O.	Securing Arterial and Venous peripheral devices Effectively in hospitals: The SAVE Trial NHMRC \$969,024	NHMRC Project	\$969,024 (2012 – 2015)
Kildea, S., Webster, J* , Martensson, L., Stapleton, H., Homer, C., Beckmann, M.	Impact on Caesarean section rates following injections of sterile water (ICARIS Trial)	NHMRC Project	\$456,760 (2012 – 2015)