

Clinical Excellence Division

Maternity Services Forum

Communique | January 2017



Happy New Year!!

At the conclusion of the Maternity Services Forum, an obstetrician, midwife, consumer and a general practitioner (GP) representative from each Hospital and Health Service (HHS) were asked to commit to meeting to reflect on the forum and to consider an action that they could commit to progress within their local service, and consider continued collaboration on this quality improvement initiative. We trust this has progressed within your HHS.

Formation of three action groups

We also gauged interest in the formation of three action groups to work alongside the Statewide Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Network to commence progressing actions around each theme. The nature of these groups will align with the key themes of the forum which are:

Group 1: Improving local leadership, confidence and impact

Group 2: Improving the reliability of identification and management of risk especially during the intrapartum period

Group 3: Improving sustainability, support and skills of clinical workforce to support reliable care.

We have been working on finalising the three action working group members that were discussed at the forum to ensure there is adequate representation from midwives, consumers, obstetricians and GP.

For each of the three action groups there is a Leadership Working Group and a Consultation Working Group. The Leadership Working Groups consist of an obstetrician, midwife, consumer, GP and a representative from the Department of Health. The Leadership Working Groups will initially scope the work and liaise with the Consultation Group to seek feedback. Engagement of leading clinicians, consumers and experts from HHSs will be key to achieving success with this patient safety and quality improvement endeavour across the State.

Meetings will be scheduled over the coming weeks for each of the action groups.

Maternity Services Forum Steering Committee

In addition, a Maternity Service Forum Steering Committee is being established to provide oversight to the progress of the activities of the three above mentioned action groups. Dr John Wakefield, Deputy Director-General will be the chair of this steering committee, with the first meeting anticipated to be held in February 2017.

The role of the Maternity Service Forum Steering Committee is to:

- ensure the project's scope aligns with the requirements of the stakeholder groups
- provide the Department of Health leads with guidance on issues
- keep the project scope under control as emergent issues force changes to be considered
- ensure communications are maintained with stakeholders
- report on project progress to Departmental Leadership Team.

For assistance or further information please contact the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Service on PSQIS_Maternity@health.qld.gov.au or 3328 9854.