

Message from the President

In this issue

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 Marcé Society Australasian Chapter conference
- 3 Advocacy for Perinatal and Infant Mental Health
- 5 Marcé Society International conference
- 6 World Maternal Mental Health Day
- 8 Useful Websites
- 9 Current Office Bearers
- 10 Call for Abstracts

Dear Marcé Members,

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Professor Jeannette Milgrom and her team on a fantastic International Marcé Society Conference. Those of you who couldn't attend really missed a spectacular Perinatal Mental Health Week. The programme was packed with so many opportunities. It was difficult to choose which session to attend at times.

The prospect of International collaboration between services in perinatal mental health was highlighted by Dr Alain Gregoire's launch of the Global Alliance for Maternal Mental Health. Dr Roch Cantwell pursued this further with a meeting of a potential International Marcé Society MBU Network.

Our Australasian Marcé Group hosted a pleasant evening for International Board Members and invited speakers. Who did not enjoy the Conference dinner with Anne Buist and Matthew Roberts providing a Marcé commentary in unique lyrical fashion, followed by a lesson in Bollywood dancing?

On the home front, the Australian Conference planning is well underway for Brisbane October 26-28. Nikki Abercrombie (PCO) is doing a great job. The Convention Centre will be an excellent venue with its beautiful appointments and seamless operation, recently experienced by the G20 Meetings. Please join us for a pleasant evening on the 27th October at the Soiree. This will be held at the beautiful Queensland Terrace of the State Library nearby. We already have an interesting run of confirmed speakers, both International and National. Please keep an eye on the Conference Website for updates.

Our long awaited website will come online in the New Year. Many thanks to Gaynor Blankley for her persistence with this.

Many thanks to Margaret Ettridge for her amazing knowledge and support as always. Thank you too, to the Executive and those many Committee Members both Marcé and Conference related. I wish you all a safe and happy Festive Season.

Best wishes

Lyndall White
President Australasian Marcé Society

Secretariat

PO Box 214
Brunswick East 3057
Ph: (03) 9380 1429
Email: margettridge@aapt.net.au

Marcé Society Australasian Chapter Conference



Australasian Marcé Society for Perinatal Mental Health Conference
"When the bough bends; resilience in the perinatal period"
26 to 28 October 2017, Brisbane Convention Exhibition Centre

Key dates:

Registrations open: February 2017
Abstracts close: 3 April 2017

We invite you to submit an abstract via this link after reading the abstract guidelines.
<http://eventcampaign.com.au/sites/marce2017/marce2017-abstract-submit.php>
See attached abstract guidelines

To join the mailing list for this conference email
ams@abercrombiemanagement.com.au

Advocacy for Perinatal and Infant Mental Health

I have a dream...

About 18 months ago I noticed how many marvellous Australians working in perinatal and infant mental health have amazing international recognition:

Prof Jeannette Milgrom, now immediate past-President international Marcé

Prof Jane Fisher, current President of International Marcé

Prof Jayashri Kulkarni, President-elect, International Association of Women's Mental Health (IAWMH)

Prof Helen Herrman, President of IAWMH and President-Elect of World Psychiatric Association

Associate Prof Campbell Paul, President-elect of World Association of Infant Mental Health

It seems to me that we should be able to gain some clout in PIMH in our own country particularly after listening to some marvellous ideas emanating from the UK in both the perinatal space (Maternal Mental Health Alliance) and infant mental health (1001 Critical Days).

PARIMHA: PARENT INFANT MENTAL HEALTH ALLIANCE OF AUSTRALIA

THE PARIMHA DREAM - EVERY PARENT WILL BE ABLE TO HELP THEIR INFANT HAVE THE BEST START IN LIFE

Every family with pregnant or postnatal women and their partners and infants from 0-3 years will be offered appropriate promotion, prevention and early intervention where necessary for their socio-emotional mental health by appropriate local services to ensure that the knowledge of the life-long benefits of the best start in life for infants is appropriately used, alongside a focus on ensuring good mental health for all perinatal women.

HOW WILL THIS BE ACHIEVED?

Building on the work already done in Australia and the UK taking the Maternal Mental Health Alliance and 1001Critical Days as a model:

Joining all those organisations currently working towards these goals into a strong coalition to ensure:

- Strong public campaigns to promote understanding of the benefits of a best start to life

- All of Australia is mapped to show where gaps exist so that local area government will work to ensure that their area has great services – this has been marvelously successful in the UK
- Support from all levels of government
- Specific, time-limited goals to ensure universal availability of services for women with severe mental illness
- Services for infants are prioritised with a clear understanding of the benefits of:
 - promotion of positive infant mental health,
 - early identification of potential family problems, particularly focusing on maternal mental illness
 - treatment of infant mental health problems as early as possible
- Training in perinatal and infant mental health is available for all those involved in the care of pregnant and postnatal women and their infants – thus including midwives, obstetricians, child health nurses, GPs, community mental health workers, and so on

Yes, it's quite a vision. But why not? I think about smoking and how attitudes to that have changed in my lifetime (did I REALLY used to smoke....?)

From where I sit, with the cessation of the National Perinatal Depression Initiative and the constant pressure on health funding, perinatal and infant mental health needs an organised structure probably with a paid secretariat, to ensure that Australia continues on the marvellous trajectory we have started.

I have to confess that I haven't quite worked out the next steps, although the guidelines from the UK are a great start. It might be premature to write this piece, but then there may never be a "right" time so the Marcé newsletter with Marcé seems like a good place to take an initial plunge.

If anyone has some energy, spare time, ideas or suggestions that they want to share, please feel free to contact me on svedwill@gmail.com. And if you think it sounds like a REALLY STUPID idea, probably you could whisper that to me....

Anne Sved Williams
Immediate Past President Australasian Marcé Society

Marcé Society International Conference: Melbourne, September 26-28, 2016

For those of you lucky enough to attend the recent Marcé Society conference in Melbourne, it will not need to be stated that the event was a great success. A rich scientific and social program showcased the area of perinatal mental health as a vibrant and exciting area in which to work and study.

It would be hard to nominate any overall highlights, as the range of presentations and events was impossible to cover individually, but during discussions with delegates the breadth and depth of presentations was often mentioned as a strength of the conference. Certainly, the plenary speakers delivered fascinating and varied presentations value to the disparate disciplines represented.

Vivette Glover and Nine Gangleaud were highly deserving recipients of the Marcé Society awards presented at the conference. Both have made significant and enduring contributions to the field of perinatal mental health, and no doubt will continue to do so for years to come.

Many congratulations are due to Jeannette Milgrom and her team. It has hopefully inspired many to attend our local conference in Brisbane in 2017.



World Maternal Mental Health Day

The University of Otago and Capital and Coast District Health Board in Wellington, New Zealand were delighted to host the first New Zealand Maternal and Infant Mental Health Conference on the 4th May 2016, as part of a worldwide focus on maternal mental health issues and celebrating World Maternal Mental Health Day. The event was a huge success bringing together and delivering training to perinatal mental health practitioners and service users. The national conference attracted 160 attendees - medical and mental health clinicians from across the country, as well as mothers, babies and community and primary health providers.

Feedback was very positive with attendees saying they would be able to use the knowledge gained to take back into the community. One said: "I come across mental health and domestic issues all the time in my work in communities. Knowledge from this conference has given me more confidence in my work working alongside mothers and communities". Additional efforts by the team with a movie fundraiser (*The Maiden's Blush*) in conjunction with the conference raised funds for Post Natal Distress Wellington.

Mark Huthwaite
University of Otago



Upcoming Conferences



When the bough bends, resilience in the perinatal period



Australasian
Marcé Society for
Perinatal Mental
Health 2017
Conference

Brisbane Convention
& Exhibition Centre
26 to 28 October 2017

For further details visit
www.marcesociety.com.au

Please send any newsletter contributions to the editor: JPowder@mercy.com.au

Useful Websites

Marcé Society (Australasian Branch)	www.marcesociety.com.au
<i>beyondblue</i>	www.beyondblue.org.au
<i>beyondblue</i> online training	www.thinkgp.com.au/beyondblue
Clinical Practice Guidelines	www.beyondblue.org.au/guidelines
From the Heart WA	www.fromtheheartwa.org.au
Gidget Foundation	www.gidgetfoundation.com.au
Helen Mayo House	www.wch.sa.gov.au/services/az/divisions/mentalhealth/helenmayo/index.html
Just Speak Up	www.OnlySpeakUp.com.au
Mothers Matter	www.mothersmatter.co.nz
PANDA	www.panda.org.au
PIRI (Parent-Infant Research Institute)	www.piri.org.au
SA Perinatal Guidelines	www.health.sa.gov.au/ppg/Default.aspx?PageContentID=1416&tabid=35
St John of God Healthcare	www.beatbabyblues.com.au
WA Perinatal Mental Health Unit	
For health professionals	www.wnhs.health.wa.gov.au/wapmhu.php
For consumers	www.wnhs.health.wa.gov.au/emotionalhealth.php
What Were We Thinking?	www.whatwerewethinking.org.au

Australasian Marcé Society: Office Bearers

Executive Committee

The Australasian Chapter Committee consists of the following office bearers, who are elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Year 2015 - 2017

President:	Dr Lyndall White, QLD
President-Elect:	Dr Caroline Zanetti, WA
Past President:	Dr Anne Sved Williams AM, SA
Treasurer:	Ms Leanda Verrier, WA
Secretary:	Mrs Debra Sims, NSW
Editor:	Dr Josephine Power, VIC

Members-at-Large

Professor Megan Galbally, WA

Dr Gaynor Blankley, VIC

Professor Jane Fisher, VIC (President-elect International Marcé)

Professor Jeannette Milgrom, VIC (President International Marcé 2016)

Committee Representatives:

Indigenous Representative: Dr Lynore Geia, QLD

Consumer Representative: Ms Terri Smith, CEO PANDA, VIC

Committee Members

Dr Sylvia Lim-Gibson, NSW

Dr Liz MacDonald, NZ

Dr Nicky Beamish, TAS

Dr Matthew Coates, WA

Dr Rebecca Hill, SA

Mrs Rosie Smith, NZ

Dr Julia Feutrill, WA

Call for Abstracts: Marcé Australasian Chapter conference 2017

Abstract submissions close 3 April 2017

The Organising Committee invites abstract submissions for presentations at the biennial Australasian Marcé Society for Perinatal Mental Health 2017 Conference. All abstracts submissions must be made by completing the online submission form and attaching your abstract as per the layout guidelines.

Authors are invited to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations. Please indicate the preferred platform on the submission form. The allocation of presentations is at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

There is no limit to the number of abstracts you may submit.

As a commitment to attend and support the Conference, accepted presenters are expected to register and pay for a **full or day registration**. Potential presenters should note that all costs to attend the Conference must be met from their own resources.

Key Dates

3 April

Deadline for abstract submission at 5:00pm AEST.

Mid-June 2017

Authors will be notified by email of the result of their abstract submission.

1 September 2017

Presenter registration deadline.

General Guidelines for Submissions

Abstracts will only be accepted by submitting through the online process. The abstract content must be uploaded into the system in a Microsoft Word .doc or .docx format.

Abstracts must not exceed 300 words.

Layout

Abstracts are to be submitted in the format described below. They must include;

Title

Authors

Affiliation of authors

E-mail of corresponding author

Presenting author underlined

The presenting author must be registered by 1 September 2017.

Formatting

Paper Title: Bold in Title Case, Arial, font size 12

Authors Names: Names should be supplied in the given (first) name first, surname (family) name last format. Bold in Title Case, Arial, font size 10, underline presenting author(s)

Author's Affiliations: All affiliations should contain institution, city and country and be in sentence case. Please use superscripts to match each author with his/her affiliation) e.g. Cris Stagg¹ and Ian Parry²

¹The Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane, Australia ²Auckland District Health Board, Auckland, New Zealand

Email: e-mail of corresponding author

Descriptive text: Sentence case, Arial font size 10. Single spacing (1.0) * Note that characters and symbols must be inserted into the document using the INSERT SYMBOL function, not by changing the font, and please do not use document styles Do NOT include references

Overall word count, excluding the scientific title, authors and affiliations must not exceed 300 words

Abbreviations: full text on first mention followed by the abbreviation of first parenthesis

Presentation Options

You will requested to nominate one of four presentation platforms at the time of submission.

Paper (30 minutes including 5 minutes for questions/discussion)

Symposium (90 minutes including 3-4 related papers – you must provide an abstract for each paper and indicate on the online submission form, the preferred sequence the papers are to be presented

Poster

Workshop (90-minute session)

Statement on Ethical Compliance

The Marcé Society is committed to ethically-responsible reporting of research and clinical work. In order to ensure this, all presenters are asked to indicate compliance with ethical standards on the online submission form.

1. Reports on research using human participants with approval from an Institutional Human Research Ethics Committee
2. Reports on clinical work using video or audio recording of patients/clients with their permission for use at conferences/meetings
3. Reports on clinical work using video or audio recording of patients/clients with their permission for use with an audience of health professionals only
4. Reports on work with quality improvement project approval
5. Does not report on research using human participants nor on clinical work using video or audio recording of patients/clients

Publication

Abstracts presented at The Australasian Marcé Society 2017 Conference will be published in the Conference Proceedings.