2025 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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Tuesday 9th

0800-0900	Registration						
0900-1030			Plenary				
0900	Welcome to Country						
0915	Welcome from ACM Associate Professor Zoe Bradfield, ACM President						
0920	Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer Update Adjunct Professor (Practice) Alison McMillan PSM, Australian Government Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer						
0935	Keynote Presentation						
1020	NT Chief Nursing and Midwifery Off Kellie Wilton, NT CNMO						
1030-1100			Morning Tea Exhibition Hall				
1100-1230			Concurrent Session A				
	Plenary Hall Connection	Waterfront 3 Progress & Possibility	Betbiyan 3 People & Practice	Bundirrik 4 Evolving Roles	Waterfront 1&2 Workshops (pre registration only)		
1100	Nothing about us without us: a case-study in Non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal co-design Adj Assoc Prof Jane Warland, University of Adelaide, Kay Villaflor, Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation Palmerston Cultural and Family Centre and Lesley O'Brien, Elder.	Women's experiences of decision- making about induction of labour Dr Melissa Buultjens, La Trobe University	What are the experiences of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander midwifery students and midwives Professor Donna Hartz, Western Sydney Uni & Leona McGrath, Western Sydney LHD	Evaluation of the IMPROVE workshops for healthcare professionals in the Northern Territory Natasha Cocker, Stillbirth CRE	1100 Supporting Better Births After Caesarean Dr Hazel Keedle Facilitated Discussion Directly influence the development of future workshops on supporting women planning a birth after caesarean. Drawing on her		
1120	Connect, Listen, Respect: Co- Designing a Birthing with Country model of care in the ACT Fiona Le Mesurier, ACT Health and Karel Williams, University of Canberra	The neurodivergent perinatal experience - A systematic literature review on autism and ADHD Jata Elliott, Edith Cowan University	A research-based process evaluation in establishing a midwifery student group practice Wimbayi Musodza, Western Sydney University & Gracie Borg, Blacktown Hospital	"Midwives provide care at any gestation": Time for change in acute early pregnancy care provision Nicole Freeman, King Edward Memorial Hospital	extensive research and books, Dr. Keedle is committed to creating learning experiences that truly meet the needs of midwives. Join this facilitated discussion to share your specific learning goals, challenges, and desired resources related to supporting women have a better birth after caesarean.		

MIDWIFERY FOOTPRINTS

1140	"We were treated like	Maternal experiences of cervical	Creating Lasting Footprints:	Our footprint in midwifery: the	1145	
	shitbecause we are Aboriginal"	ripening by Outpatient-balloon vs	Strengthening Connections for	care of privately practising	Breastfeeding Untangled	
	Karel Williams, University of	Inpatient-prostaglandin gel	Midwifery Sustainability	midwives	Dr Jennifer Hocking, Australian	
	Canberra	Dr Billie Bradford, Victoria	Lynnelle Moran, Australian	Dr Megan Cooper, Flinders	Breastfeeding Association	
		University of Wellington, NZ	Catholic University	University	Participants will work together	
1200	Tracks to improve culturally safe	Co-design of Maternity Discussion	Understanding Australian	"I've lost trust": Midwives'	through case studies that focus on	
	care in Midwifery through	Starter Cards for Aboriginal and	midwives' intention to stay: a	experiences and challenges when	breastfeeding support challenges	
	leadership	Torres Strait Islander Families.	mixed methods survey study	providing termination of	that can occur in the first hours,	
	Stacey Butcher, CNMO Office QLD	Professor Linda Sweet, Deakin	Sarah Dawson & Christine	pregnancy care	days and weeks. There will be time	
	& Hayley Montga, Griffith	University & Ann Hallett, Western	Atkinson, Edith Cowan University	Susanne Armour, Western Sydney	for participants to share their own	
	University	Health		University	clinical experiences and to	
1220	Exploring the lived experiences of	Mareeba Maternal Health Project	Midwives' work-related intentions	Maternal Birth Satisfaction	contribute through collaborative	
	financial hardship for Australian	Danielle Cahill, Mareeba Maternity	and reasons to remain, leave or	Relating to Intraoperative and	learning.	
	midwifery students	and Paediatric Unit, Cairns and	return to clinical positions	Early Postpartum Skin-to-Skin		
	Lynnelle Moran, Australian	Hinterland Hospital and Health	Elisabeth Hemnes Aanensen,	Alexandria McCutcheon, Curtin		
	Catholic University	Service	Western Norway University of	University		
			Applied Sciences			
1225	Reimagining relationality as the	Using the CFIR to evaluate the	Hearth & Birth: Midwifery	The Capture of Midwives in		
	focus of midwifery education: A	integration of a perinatal	students' experiences of	Breastfeeding Advocacy to Provide		
	qualitative study.	education resource in the clinical	homebirth	Ecologically Friendly Health		
	Dr Nicole Hainsworth, University of	setting	Dr Kate Buchanan, Edith Cowan	Services		
	Newcastle	Dr Sarah Hay, Edith Cowan	University	Kusmayra Ambarwati, University		
		University		of Respati Indonesia		
1230-1330			Lunch			
			Exhibition Hall			
1300-1500	Midwifery Practice Review Pilot Program					
	Room TBC					
			Katherine Neil and Aya Emery, ACM			
		By prior E	OI registration process only (EOI openi	ng in June)		

1330-1500	Concurrent Session B					
	Plenary Hall Rural and Remote	Waterfront 3 Midwifery in Action	Betbiyan 3 Leading Change	Bundirrik 4 Transforming Care	Waterfront 1&2 Workshops (pre registration only)	
1330	What models of midwifery care do midwives want to work in and why? Dr Simone Naughton, Queensland Health	Badass Midwives Needed to Tackle Birth Trauma and Botched Breastfeeding Dr Sharon Perrella, University of Western Australia	Quietly leading from the heart: Midwifery leaders' perspectives on midwifery leadership Fiona Sannen, Western Sydney University	Midwifing midwifery students and the benefit of support circles as ritual practice Jessie Johnson-Cash, University of the Sunshine Coast	1330 Strengthening and Sustaining Continuity of Carer Anna Byrom, All 4 Maternity	
1350	Core of Life 'Annual Cross Culture Women's Talk & Cultural Ceremony' Victoria Elborough, Youth and Family Education Resources & Sally Maymuru, MIWATJ Health	Examining How Midwives Provide Pregnancy Associated Cancer Care. Lucy Armitage, University of Canberra	Birth Outcomes of women booked to WA's first Endorsed Midwifery Birth Centre Carli Beange, Royal Perth Bently Group	Shared Decision-Making in Antenatal Care: Does body size make a difference? <i>Madeline Hawke, Deakin</i> <i>University</i>		
1410	Syphilis serology testing in pregnant Aboriginal women in remote maternity care settings in the Northern Territory Professor Belinda Jennings, Stillbirth CRE	Acuneedling and the APP trial Heidi Williams, Edith Cowan University	MAMA Sustainable private midwifery practice Kelly Langford, MAMA Midwifery Practice	Reimagining Neuro-inclusion in Perinatal Care: A Neurodiversity- Informed PAR approach Jata Elliot, Edith Cowan University	1415 Points of Tension Associated with Culturally Safe Care Tania Day and Ali Drummond, CATSINaM Facilitated Discussion	
1430	MGP is the answer: a rural approach to supporting women, attracting midwives, keeping services open Rebekah Bowman, NSW Health & Hannah Bird, NSW Health	Midwives' experiences using a peanut ball for women during labour: a qualitative study Dr Virginia Stulz, University of Newcastle	Should telehealth be a standard option in pregnancy care? From clinical necessity during a pandemic Professor Della Forster, La Trobe University	Rates of breastfeeding and associated factors for First Nations infants in Victoria, Australia Tanisha Springall, Griffith University	For time in memoriam, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander midwives have been sovereign and practicing cultural safety improve outcomes for women, babies, families and communities. A lack of systemic	
1450	Endorsed midwives, can we become be the cornerstone of rural Victorian maternity care? Caitlin Fehring, Cohuna District Hospital	Maternity art collaboration: Our place is your place Dr Simone Naughton, Queensland Health	Caring as Country: Learning to become an ecosystem of support Karen Cieri, Charles Darwin University/ Northern Territory Department of Education	Effect of Audio-Visual Therapy on Pain and Anxiety in Labor: A Randomized Controlled Trial Assoc Prof Moonjelly Vijayan Smither, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar	and structural change perpetuates an ongoing tension for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander midwives to be able to practice in a truly culturally safe manner that	
1455	Midwifery in rural and remote regions of South Asia: A scoping review Ryan Fraser, University of the Sunshine Coast	The art of midwifery: skills and scope Jaimee Smith, Launceston Birth Centre	Listening, Learning and leading change: The ACT Maternity Experience Survey Chanel Connor, ACT Health Directorate	Overcoming the Trouble Stories A Warlpiri and Arrernte Perinatal and Infant Social and Emotional Wellbeing Story Timothy Packham, NT Health	privileges Indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing. So what needs to change to meaningfully delivery culturally safe, high quality midwifery care?	
1500-1530	Afternoon Tea Exhibition Hall					
1530-1700			Plenary			
1530 1615	Keynote Presentation Cherisse Buzzacott, Chair Rhodanthe Lipsett Indigenous Midwifery Charitable Fund Midwifery Leadership Panel Panellists to be confirmed					
1700-1830			Midwifery Mixer Frangipani Plaza			

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0730-0830	Student Breakfast sponsored by Huggies					
		Profes	ssor Caroline Homer AO and Dr Vaness	a Scarf		
0830-0900	Registration					
0900-1030			Plenary			
0900	Maximizing the Impact of Midwives Across Health Systems – Real Solutions During Uncertain Times CJ Blennerhassett, President, Canadian Association of Midwives					
0945	Keynote Presentation Christian Wright, Remote Midwife an	nd Nurse				
1030-1100			Morning Tea Exhibition Hall			
1100-1230			Concurrent Session C			
	Plenary Hall Rural and Remote	Waterfront 3 Workforce Sustainability	Betbiyan 3 Practice Pathways	Bundirrik 4 Advancing Practice	Waterfront 1&2 Workshops (pre registration only)	
1100	Weipa Birthing - a remote health service and community success story Michelle O'Connor, Queensland Health	Midwives Matter - The Reality of a Rostering Reckoning Claire Rankin, Western Health & Adj Prof Tanya Farrell, Western Health	A Day in the life of a Médecins Sans Frontières Midwife Dr Lisa Peberdy, Médecins Sans Frontières	Screening for a previous traumatic birth experience in a subsequent pregnancy. Deborah Pidd, La Trobe University	1100 Conversations with women about alcohol, pregnancy and safe breastfeeding practices FARE	
1120	Nändiwu Dhäwu- supporting stronger voices & outcomes for Yolŋu mothers & Babies in NE Arnhemland. <i>Tracy Smith, MIWATJ & Sally</i> <i>Maymuru, MIWATJ</i>	Clearing a path to Midwifery: The WSLHD Registered Nurse-Pathway into Midwifery Services initiative. <i>Dr Karen McLaughlin, Western</i> <i>Sydney University</i>	Australian Midwifery student confidence in supporting physiological birth: A four country comparison <i>Emma Richie, Edith Cowan</i> <i>University</i>	Phenomenography: A useful methodology for midwifery research? Dr Kirstie Balding, University of Notre Dame	Evidence-based information and tools to discuss alcohol use with women who are pregnant, planning a pregnancy or breastfeeding. Learn how to approach these conversations using the validated AUDIT-C tool for assessment, providing advice that is consistent with the NHMRC Alcohol Guidelines and providing strengths-based brief intervention or referral.	

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MIDWIFERY FOOTPRINTS

1140	Supporting Timor-Leste Midwives:	A secondary school VET education	Intrusive Thoughts in Perinatal	The art of midwifery	1145		
-	An Evaluative Study	pathway to increase the Midwifery	Care: Bridging Nurse and Midwife	Dr Heather Wallace, Deakin	Spinning Babies		
	Professor Belinda Jennings,	workforce	Knowledge Gaps	University	Meg Austin, Endorsed Midwife,		
	Stillbirth CRE	Professor Donna Hartz, Western	Francis Bilbao, Mums Matter	,	Spinning Babies AWARE		
		Sydney University	Psychology		Practitioner		
1200	Rural and remote midwifery led	Sustained Group Clinical	Improving healthcare provider	Ultrasound trauma: post-traumatic	Transforming birth; The Spinning		
	models of care – is Midwifery	Supervision for midwives reduces	capacity to implement evidence-	stress symptoms associated with	Babies™ approach to shaping		
	Group Practice the right "fit"?	burnout	based care	perinatal ultrasounds	physical and psychological		
	Dr Belinda Maier, QNMU	Professor Christine Catling,	Jennifer Green, University of	Helen Nightingale, La Trobe	pregnancy and birth experiences.		
		University of Technology Sydney	Technology Sydney	University			
1220	RSV prevention in infants	Please Don't Go! Retention of the	Transcendent Moments in Birthing	Oral Intake During Labour: A			
	Casey Wall, Sanofi	Maternity and Neonatal Workforce	Emma Richie, Edith Cowan	Review of Australian Guidelines			
		Fridae King, Gladstone Hospital	University	and Women's Preferences			
				Nicole Hartney, La Trobe University			
1225		K2P: Bridging "Knowledge to	Women's experiences during	Uterine Rupture: Learnings from			
		Practice" – Empowering Students	midwifery student clinical	the experiences of women who			
		for Clinical Excellence	assessment	actually have experienced the			
		Shayana Mannays, Monash Health	Rita Ball, Cairns and Hinterland	"what if"			
		& Monique Vermeulen, Deakin	Hospital and Health Service	Ashlee Anslow, Western Sydney			
		University		University			
1230-1330		l	Lunch	1			
			Exhibition Hall				
1245-1330	Annual ACM Professoriate Forum Meet Up						
	Assoc Prof Zoe Bradfield						
			Waterfront 1&2 Workshop Room				
1330-1500			Plenary				
1330	Keynote Presentation						
	Dr Kiarna Brown, Specialist Obstetric	, -					
1400	Mental Health Status of Expectant Mothers and their Risk Profile						
1 1 2 0	COPE						
1420	Midwifery Workforce of the Future						
1445	Liz Wilkes, Chief Midwife Officer QLD & Kelley Lennon, Director of Midwifery QLD Health						
1445	Caroline Homer Writer's Prize						
	Professor Caroline Homer AO, Burnet Institute Annual Awards, Fellow and Life Member Announcements						
	Dr Zoe Bradfield, ACM President	inder Announcements					
1500-1530	Di Zoe Diadjiela, Acivi i reslatili		Afternoon Tea				
			Exhibition Hall				

1530-1700			Concurrent Session D		
	Plenary Hall Guiding Practice	Waterfront 3 Advancing Practice	Betbiyan 3 Building Capacity	Bundirrik 4 Rural and Remote	Element Workshop
1530	Djäkamirr (First Nations doulas) experiences walking side-by-side together with Yolŋu pregnant women Dr Sarah Khaw, Molly Wardaguga CDU & Rosemary Gundjarranbuy, Djakamirr Co-op Ltd	Publicly funded Homebirth: Outcomes and experiences of the first 12 months. Karen Kennedy, NSW Health	Maternity Connect Program - A regional professional development workforce initiative Kylie Martin, Western Health	A beautiful bush space on Country: The Placenta Garden Project Nicola McMullen, Deakin University	(pre registration only) 1530 Legal and Ethical Issues NMBA
1550	Support not separation: The rights of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander breastfeeding Dyad Amanda Peek, University of Canberra	Supporting Timor-Leste Midwives: A Qualitative Evaluation Dr Bridget Ferguson, Central QLD University, <i>Stillbirth CRE</i>	Midwifery students' experiences of patient safety incidents in Europe Professor Mary Steen, Curtin University	Revolutionary Partnership: The Reclamation of Birthing on Country practices with the Alukura Midwifery Group Practice Karen Hollindale, My Midwives & Tahnia Edwards, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress	
1610	'That's how hospitals can do better': Shaping Maternity Care for Mums and Bubs Tahlia Johnson, Flinders University & Dr Nina Sivertsen, Flinders University	Beyond translation: The role of cross-cultural communication in women's experiences of care Georgia Griffin, Curtin University	Reflective clinical supervision in midwifery Annabel Tafe, Molly Wardaguga CDU	Innovative Assessment: Student- Led Online Mock Conference in Rural Midwifery Education Jayne Lawrence, Charles Sturt University	
1630	Probiotics in the microbiome era: Positive impacts on colic and beyond Linda Gee, Pharmacist	Exploring clinicians' views of caring for women with disabilities who access maternity care Dr Charlie Benzie, La Trobe University	Graduate midwives' transition into a post pandemic maternity health system and workforce. Dr Margie McCormick, Western Health & Hayley Pohatu, Western Health	What's this word 'risk' mean? We all have different-different thinking. Emily Armstrong, Molly Wardaguga CDU & Maria Gurruwiwi Molly Wardaguga CDU	
1650	Understanding the legal landscape relating to midwifery students and recent innovations Catherine McDougall, Midwifery Student, Griffith University	Self-Compassion for Parents Experiencing Perinatal Loss: A Scoping Review Lauren Roberts, Women and Newborn Health Service	Growing Stronger Together: Sustaining collaborative, holistic support for families Jill Beckett & Madison Hebb, Royal Darwin Hospital MGP	Integrative review of women during pregnancy making informed choices Melissa Woodhouse-Adolphus, Charles Sturt University	1615 Writing for Submission Professor Caroline Homer AO, Editor in Chief & Professor Linda Sweet, Deputy Editor Women and
1655	No MAIF! What's next? Planning for a better regulatory code for Australia Dr Jennifer Hocking, Australian Breastfeeding Association	A Recipe for Good Health - an Interprofessional Education Initiative Larissa Wundersitz, Flinders University	Have we fallen asleep at the wheel? A call to action on raising the profile of women's sleep Monique Rose, Curtin University	Review of Clinical Practice Guidelines on the timing of birth for women with GDM Kathy Lynch, University of South Australia	Birth Journal This workshop will enable midwives to have the skills and confidence to submit their articles to quality journals like Women and Birth.
1830 - 1900 1900 - 2300			Pre Dinner Drinks 2025 Gala Dinner Hall 4, Darwin Convention Centre		

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0730-0830			Breakfast sponsored by Philips Dr Vanessa Scarf				
	(pre registration required)						
0830-0900	Registration						
0900-1030	Plenary						
0900 0945	Keynote Presentation Nikki Ayers OAM, Midwife and Paralympic Gold Medallist Keynote Presentation Tez Clasquin, PhD candidate Molly Wardaguga Institute for First Nations Birth Rights						
1030-1100			Morning Tea				
4400 4000			Exhibition Hall				
1100-1230	Plenary Hall Empowering Leaders	Waterfront 3 Advancing Practice	Concurrent Session E Betbiyan 3 Breaking Barriers	Bundirrik 4 Supporting the Workforce	Element Workshops (registration only)		
1100	Development of a co-designed, evidence-based, National Roadmap for Birthing on Country services Dr Anneka Bowman, Molly Wardaguga CDU	"I couldn't turn off my midwife brain". Midwives' Experiences of Unplanned Intervention within their own Pregnancy and Birth Aimee Churcher, Monash University	Sharing number dhäwu (story): quantitative data for First Nations Birthing on Country leadership Jessica Davis, Molly Wardaguga CDU & Rosemary Gundjarranbuy, Molly Wardaguga CDU	'Mob aren't staying when there's no support' Tanisha Springall, Griffith University	1100 Supporting pregnant women and new mothers in emergencies Adj Prof Karleen Gribble, Western Sydney University Midwives play a critical role in supporting pregnant women and new mothers in disaster preparedness and during emergency response and recovery. This practical workshop will inform and prepare midwives for this important work.		
1120	Imprinting Maternity Service Open Days in South Western Sydney Local Health District Nicole Greig & Cindy Partridge, South West Sydney LHD	Women's experience of maternal- assisted caesarean section: a multi-methods study. Professor Linda Sweet, Deakin University	Homebirth - Is it safer for women and babies and is there a model that can reduce midwife burn out? Juliana Brennan, Mamatoto Midwives	Midwives navigating the notification process: sharing findings from an Australian qualitative study. Fiona Gordon, La Trobe University			
1140	Improving access and equity in maternity care for Aboriginal women at Bubup clinic Dr Sue Willey, Monash University & Tamara Porter, Monash Health	Provision of respectful maternal care in Indonesian adolescents. Alya Hazfiarini, University of Melbourne	Leaving lasting footprints: Digital Innovations for Transformin Midwifery Pedagogy in Nigeria Dr Isabella Garti, Charles Darwin University	Learning to 'sip tea intelligently'. Midwifery students understanding of emotional intelligence. Dr Kristie Balding, University of Notre Dame	· ·		



1200	Is the national maternity Strategy	Perceptions and educational	Exploring mother's experiences of	Exploring midwifery student	1145
	meeting the needs of rural and	preparedness of midwives in	midwifery CoC in subsequent	financial circumstances and	Perineal repair introductory
	remote-dwelling women?	providing sexual and gender	pregnancies after perinatal loss	hardship	workshop
	Paula Medway, Deakin University	diverse care.	Kelly Robinson, University of	Sharon Mumford, La Trobe	Dr Sara Kindberg Adelskov &
		Alicia Carey, Charles Sturt	Adelaide	University	Melanie Francis, Gynzone
		University			Diagnosing and suturing a simple
1220	Global Chief Midwives community	Does use of a carbon monoxide	A Step In The Right Direction	Exploring Motherhood in	perineal trauma or an episiotomy
	of practice	(CO) monitor in pregnancy	Karen Taylor, Echuca Regional	Midwifery Education: A	is considered as part of a midwife's
	Alison Weatherstone, ACM Chief	promote smoking behaviour	Health	Phenomenological Study of	scope of practice . Learn to
	Midwife	change?		Australian Students	diagnose perineal lacerations in
		Cherise Fletcher, University of		Assoc Prof Terri Downer, University	this innovative blended learning
		Adelaide		of the Sunshine Coast	approach for midwives
1225		Contraception uptake and		The experiences of graduate	
		breastfeeding continuation at 12		midwives providing preceptorship	
		weeks postpartum		to students on clinical placement	
		Katherine Vaclavek, University of		Melanie Oliver, Monash University	
		Sydney			
1230-1330			Lunch		
			Exhibition Hall		
			ACM Update		
			Plenary Hall		
1330-1500			Plenary		
1330	Prizes and 2026 Announcement				
	Associate Professor Zoe Bradfield, AC	CM President			
1340	Recording the footprints (and some	times hoofprints) of midwives past			
	Chritine Catling, ACM Australian Mia				
1350	Stronger Communities through Was	hing, Remote Laundries Project			
	Elizabeth Morgan Brett, CEO Aborigi	nal Investment Group			
1430	ТВС				
1500			Conference Close		

