

UQ Winter Research Project Description

Project title:	A review of the Mental Health Services available in South East Queensland for women from pre-conception into the postnatal period of 12 months following birth.
Project duration:	4 weeks
Description:	<p>The 2016 Maternal and Perinatal Mortality and Morbidity in Queensland Report stated that psychosocial factors were the leading cause of maternal death. (1) The period surrounding birth includes antenatal, postnatal and increasingly also the pre-conception period. Understanding the psychological issues women face in these periods and adjusting to parenthood is valuable in managing mental health concerns of anxiety and depression. A research study reported an overall concern from women who birthed in the public system were not provided with sufficient community based services to cater for required information needs. (2) Furthermore very few participating respondents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. (2) This review aims to conduct an audit of the mental health services that are currently available to women of varied cultural backgrounds in the South East Queensland area. This will be done by conducting a database and library resource search assisted by a University of Queensland librarian. The student may also be required to contact mental health services to ascertain extent of the services provided.</p> <p>Key words such as pre-conception, antenatal, Indigenous, postnatal, maternity, mental health and Indigenous, refugee, domestic violence.</p>
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	This project provides opportunities for a student to develop skills in the process of systematically searching a range of databases or web browsers and critically appraising the information. The findings will be collated and presented as a map of the Mental Health Services. This mapping information will be reported in a journal publication and presented to the school in an oral presentation and utilised in teaching situations.
Suitable for:	<p>UQ enrolled dual degree Nursing/Midwifery student in their 4th year or Midwifery student in their 3rd year.</p> <p>This is a unique opportunity for students interested in the Honours programme in the application of evidence based practice.</p> <p>The successful candidate will need to be able to demonstrate the ability to work independently, be comfortable with working with web based technology and be able to meet agreed deadlines.</p>
Primary Supervisor:	Dr. Glenda Hawley, Lecturer
Further info:	Please contact the primary supervisor via email: glenda.hawley@uq.edu.au should you wish to discuss the project in more detail.
References:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Queensland Health. Maternal and Perinatal Mortality and Morbidity in Queensland: In brief, Herston, Queensland; 2016. 2. Zadoroznyj M BW, Young K, Kruske S, Miller Y., 'I really needed help': What mother's say about their post-birth care in Queensland, Australia. Women and Birth. 2015;28:246-51.

