

ANZSA Connections

*A voice for Australian and New Zealand perinatal health professionals,
bereavement specialists and parents to work together*

*The Australian and New Zealand Stillbirth Alliance (ANZSA) is a regional office of the
International Stillbirth Alliance (ISA)*

ISSUE 1

October, 2009

*Are you aware that every year in Australia and New Zealand
approximately 2400 pregnancies of at least 20 weeks gestation result in stillbirth?
Approximately six babies per day are not given a chance at life, which is equivalent
to the loss of six Boeing 747 jet planes carrying 400 passengers each*

In this issue		A note from the Chair	
A Note from the Chair	1	 <p>Welcome to the first edition of ANZSA Connections. It has been an exciting few months for all involved in ANZSA. Our annual general meeting was held in Darwin in April where the spotlight was placed on 'reducing the risk of perinatal death and improving bereavement care: focusing on the needs of Indigenous women'. At that time, our board was formally constituted. The ANZSA Board has representation from both parents who have experienced a stillbirth and individuals representing different disciplines (including research, midwifery, obstetrics, neonatology, pathology and bereavement care). We believe that creating this dialogue between medical professionals and parents is one of the first vital steps. We truly are heading in the right direction together to reduce stillbirth.</p> <p>One way ANZSA can do this is by improving clinical practice. By acting as a vehicle to implement the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand's (PSANZ) Perinatal Mortality Audit guidelines, ANZSA has developed an educational program for health care professionals on care for women who experience stillbirth. This program – IMPROVE (IMproving Perinatal and Review and Outcomes Via Education) - covers appropriate practices around principles of bereavement care, communicating with parents about autopsy, investigation, classification, and audit of stillbirth. With 5 training sessions undertaken to date, ANZSA aims to roll out this program across ANZ in the near future - however like most things, this will be is dependent on funding.</p> <p>Another way to help reduce the stillbirth rate is to improve data collection. High quality and consistent data collection means researchers have more information to help unlock the unknowns of stillbirth. In December last year many ANZSA researchers, along with the Chairs from each state perinatal and maternal perinatal mortality committee reached consensus on a single data collection form. We hope this will be implemented in all ANZ hospitals.</p> <p>In international news, the recent UK Perinatal Mortality Surveillance Report published by the Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health (CEMACH) stating that stillbirth rates in the UK have decreased significantly, has given ANZSA hope that reducing this rate in our region is achievable. Together we can make this happen.</p> <p>Until next time,</p> <p><i>Prof David Ellwood</i></p>	
Overview of ANZSA	2		
Recent and upcoming events	2		
News from the Regional Coordinators	3		
Research highlights in ANZ	4		
Clinical practice guidelines in maternity care	6		
ISA News: Update of global stillbirth activities	7		
FAQs	8		
Hot off the press: Recently published research	8		
News from our members	9		
Who we are: ANZSA Board, committees and members	10		

ABOUT ANZSA

ANZSA is an alliance of organisations (both professional colleges and parent founded organisations) in Australia and New Zealand working together to reduce stillbirth and improve care for parents who have a stillborn baby. ANZSA was established through seed funding from the Department of Health and Ageing Canberra in 2007. Each organisation brings different expertise and focus and by working closely together a much greater benefit for parents will be realised. ANZSA is a regional office of the **International Stillbirth Alliance (ISA)** and as such addresses the objectives of ISA ensuring relevance to the Australian and New Zealand setting and in so doing contributes to the global effort on stillbirth. I invite you to visit our website to find out more about ANZSA and its activities at: www.stillbirthalliance.org.au and to consider joining a committee or supporting our work.

With six babies stillborn every day in ANZ it is with a sense of urgency that ANZSA calls for your support and collaboration to reduce the numbers of families faced with this tragic event.

Vicki Flenady, ANZSA Secretary

GET INVOLVED WITH ANZSA

ANZSA relies on the support of its generous volunteers and donors to continue. If you would like to [volunteer](#), [donate](#), become an [individual supporter](#), [member organisation](#) or become a member of our committees please contact Madeleine Elder at info@stillbirthalliance.org.au or visit our website www.stillbirthalliance.org.au

RECENT EVENTS

Sands New Zealand, 7- 8 August 2009

Sands New Zealand held its biennial conference in Auckland on the 7th and 8th of August this year. The theme of the conference was – ‘A Little Life, Not a Little Loss’. For further information about the conference please visit www.sands.org.nz.



UPCOMING EVENTS

International Pregnancy and Infant Loss month is in October

October is dedicated throughout the world to raise awareness of infant and pregnancy loss and to honour and remember babies and infants who died through miscarriage, stillbirth, neonatal death, SIDS and all infant deaths. For more information about International Pregnancy and Loss month and its history visit the **International Stillbirth Alliance** website at: www.stillbirthalliance.org.



Bonnie Babes National Babies Day

National Babies Day was held on Saturday 19th September 2009. Events were scheduled which remembered the babies who passed away too soon and celebrated the lives of healthy babies across Australia. For further information please visit <http://www.bonniebabes.org.au/national-babies-day/>

Women's Hospitals Australasia (WHA) Conference

Women's Hospitals Australasia will hold their annual conference in Brisbane this year from 9th-11th November. The theme for the week long conference is 'the Times they are a-Changin': Engaging in Health Care Reform'. For further information about the conference please visit http://www.wcha.asn.au/index.cfm/spid/1_27.cfm



ISA/ISPID Conference October 8-10, 2010 - Sydney

The **International Stillbirth Alliance (ISA)** and International Society for the Study and Prevention of Infant Death (ISPID) are pleased to announce that their joint conference will be held 8-10 October 2010 in Sydney, Australia and will be hosted by ANZSA and SIDS and Kids. The Conference will focus on 'Precious lives: global collaboration in stillbirth and infant death'. The Conference themes will encompass the problems faced by the diverse populations of the Australasian region and developing countries globally. A call for abstracts will be coming soon. To express interest in attending please visit <http://www.isaispid2010.com/>.



NEWS FROM ANZSA REGIONAL COORDINATORS

ANZSA's regional coordinators are the regional contacts for both ANZSA and the PSANZ Perinatal Mortality Group (PSANZ PMG). The 9 coordinators can answer any regional enquiries that you may have which relate to ANZSA and PSANZ PMG activities. Regional coordinators also assist in the implementation of the PSANZ Perinatal Mortality Audit Guidelines and other relevant guidelines within the region through the recently developed 'IMproving Perinatal and Review and Outcomes Via Education (IMPROVE) Program which utilizes the SCORPIO (Structured, Clinical, Objective, Referenced, Problem-orientated, Integrated and Organised) educational approach. Regional coordinators also collaborate with existing multidisciplinary networks to enhance activities in the region, disseminate information, and communicate with local health departments. IMPROVE has been developed and refined through piloting over the past 18 months at the following sites:

Site	Faculty
April, 2008: Gold Coast	Susan Arbuckle, Adrienne Gordon, Jane Hirst, Heather Jeffery, Jonathan Morris, Ros Richardson
August, 2008: Darwin Hospital, Darwin	Susan Arbuckle, Vicki Flenady, Jane Hirst, Heather Jeffery, Ros Richardson, Janet Vaughan
February 2009: Mater Mother's Hospital, Brisbane	Lucy Cooke, Vicki Flenady, Glen Gardener, Rohan Lourie, David Tudehope, Trish Wilson
April 2009: Darwin Hospital, Darwin	Adrian Charles, Lucy Cooke, Vicki Flenady, Adrienne Gordon, Janet Vaughan, Trish Wilson
August 2009: John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle	Andrew Carlin, Vicki Flenady, Rebecca Glover, Suzie Hamilton, Fiona McKenzie, Felicity Park, Sue-Ellen Robertson, Ian Symonds, Susan Travis, Phillip Woodford

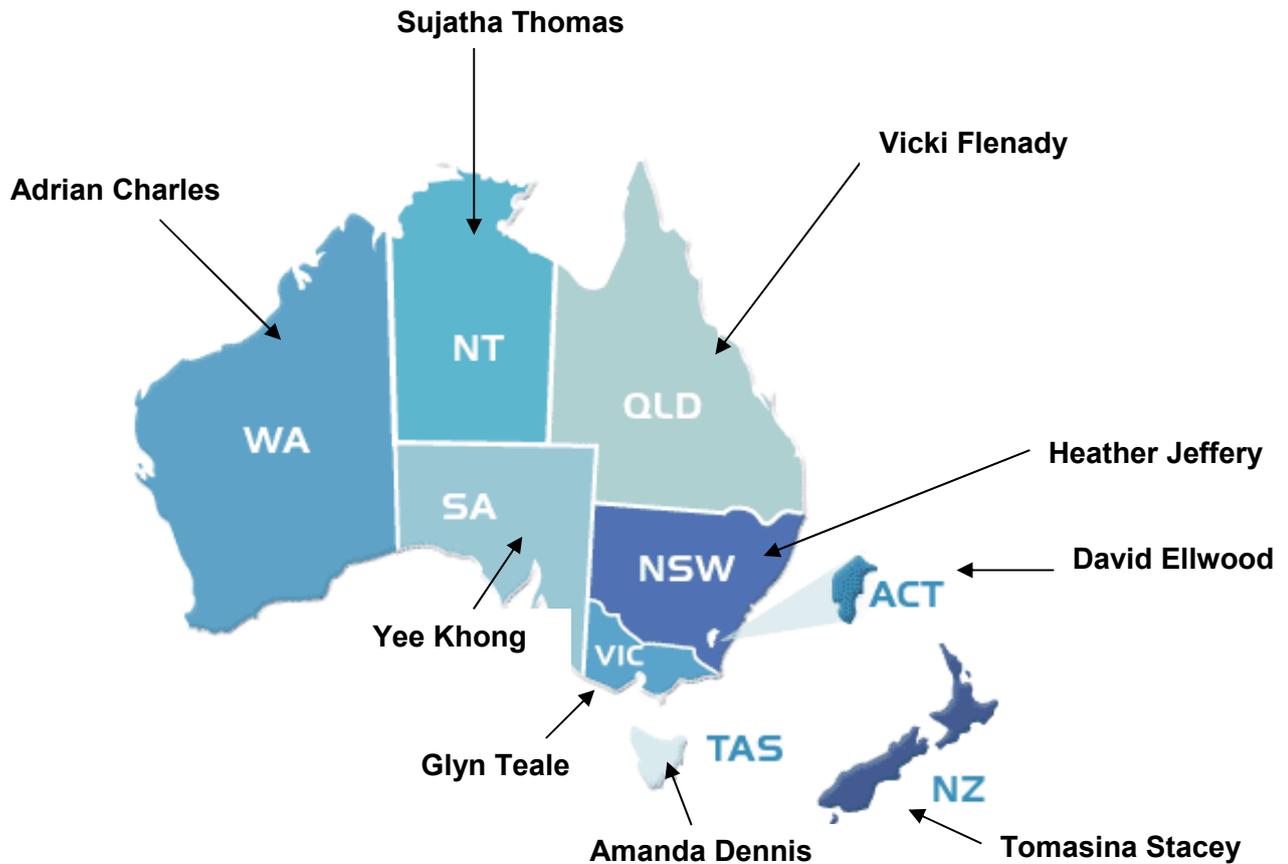
UPCOMING IMPROVE WORKSHOPS:

Pre PSANZ 14th Annual Congress Annual Meeting of the PSANZ PMG and ANZSA:
Saturday 27th March 2010: Wellington, NZ

RANZCOG Annual Scientific Meeting:
21st – 24th March 2010: Adelaide, SA

If you'd like to participate in the rollout of IMPROVE within your region, or to consult ANZSA on any other matters please contact your regional coordinator at info@stillbirthalliance.org.au (see below).

WHO IS YOUR REGIONAL COORDINATOR?



ANZSA RESEARCH - HIGHLIGHTS

A note from the chair, ANZSA Research Committee

The Research Committee was convened on terms of reference which generally encompassed the areas of research and priority setting in research and the undertaking of such research. The committee has an eclectic mix of professional and parents. A major focus is the definition of stillbirth and the probity of data collection when there is incomplete data such as no autopsy. A smaller group of the committee has recently been formed to brain-storm and horizon-scan strategies for research, including promoting funding opportunities, execution and collaboration.

Yee Khong, ANZSA Research Committee Chair

ANZSA RESEARCH LISTING

As part of ANZSA's goal to support and undertake high quality collaborative research we are currently compiling all research currently being undertaken or recently completed in ANZ to enhance collaboration and community awareness of research.

We invite all those planning, undertaking or recently completed research that focuses on increasing the current knowledge for the prevention of stillbirth and care for affected families, to contribute to this listing of research.

The information needed for registration is minimal: a title, plain language statement including purpose and anticipated outcomes, estimated completion date, study collaborators and contact person details. Please complete the registration form and email to: info@stillbirthalliance.org.au

ANZSA RESEARCH STUDIES: NEW, ONGOING, COMPLETED

New studies about to commence

ANZSA Stillbirth Research Consortium

Steering group: Adrian Charles, Lucy Cooke, David Ellwood, Vicki Flenady, Glenn Gardener, Belinda Jennings, Yee Khong, Jeremy Oats, Elizabeth Sullivan, Glyn Teale and Trish Wilson.

The overarching aim of this collaboration is to facilitate the conduct of high quality population-based studies of stillbirths to inform strategies for prevention.

Through establishment of a prospective data collection of stillbirths we aim, in the first two years to:

1. Determine the yield, in terms of additional helpful information about the causes of stillbirth, of the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand stillbirth investigation protocol, and its individual components, compared to the cause of death documented on the Certificate of Perinatal Death;
2. Undertake a cost-consequence analysis to assist in rationalisation of the investigation protocol;
3. Assess the value and costs of a selective approach to stillbirth investigation based on specific clinical scenarios and the available information at the time of stillbirth; and to:
4. Gain baseline data on which to design further research in stillbirth prevention and improving psychosocial outcomes for parents.



Ongoing studies

The Auckland Stillbirth Study

Study team: Tomasina Stacey, Lesley McCowan, Ed Mitchell, Jane Zuccollo, John Thompson and Alec Ekeroma

A prospective case control study of third trimester stillbirth in Auckland July 2006-June 2009. The specific objectives are to identify and quantify risk factors for late stillbirth in Auckland as well as to identify novel, modifiable, risk factors for late stillbirth.

Autopsy consent: Meeting the needs of parents and clinicians.

Study team: Vicki Flenady, Adrian Charles, Katie Day, Liz Davis, Emma Kirkwood, Dell Horey, David Ellwood, Yee Khong, Belinda Jennings, Trish Wilson.

This study has three main components: Consultation with parents; A survey of clinicians; and longitudinal studies involving parents. The aim of this study is obtain reliable information to improve counselling and consenting procedures for bereaved parents on autopsy examination for stillborn babies. The study will also examine psychosocial outcomes relating to information communication practices and the decision for consent to autopsy. The study is supported by funds from the **Mater Foundation** through the Mater Mothers' Research Centre, Mater Health Services, Brisbane,

Risk Factors for Stillbirth: A multicentre case control study

Study team: Adrienne Gordon, Heather Jeffery and Jonathan Morris. William Rawlinson, Elizabeth Headley, Michael Peek, Terry McGee, Deborah de Wilde

This study, involving several Sydney Hospitals, uses semi structured interviews to assess clinical/lifestyle factors and molecular techniques to assess viral infection. Anticipated outcomes: risk factors both demographic and clinical, description of fetal movements in cases and controls, incidence of positive viral detection in cases and controls. We are attempting to ensure that the same core investigations (based on PSANZ guidelines) are being performed for the cases in the involved hospitals.

Please Note: The detailed analysis of molecular transmission of viruses and infection versus causation etc is the remit of Prof Bill Rawlinson at SEALS Prince of Wales Hospital. The study is supported by funding from the **Stillbirth Foundation Australia.**

Recently completed studies

Modifiable risk factors for stillbirth

ANZSA has completed a systematic literature review of modifiable risk factors for stillbirth relevant to the ANZ setting supported through funding by the Stillbirth Foundation Australia and also supported through ANZSA secretariat funding by the Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra

The key findings of the review showed the top ranking risk factors with a combined Population Attributable Risk (PAR) of 45% were:

- Maternal overweight and obesity; Maternal age >35 and Smoking

Therefore, at a population level, these factors are priority areas to reduce the stillbirth rate in Australia and New Zealand.

Uptake of the PSANZ perinatal mortality audit guidelines: A survey of midwives and doctors in ANZ.

Deficiencies in investigation and audit of perinatal deaths results in loss of information and limits future prevention. Such deficiencies led the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand to develop clinical practice guidelines for perinatal mortality. This survey, of 133 lead maternity care providers in birth suites in 69 large maternity hospitals across ANZ, was undertaken to determine the use and views of the PSANZ Guidelines, focussing on the investigation and audit aspects of the guideline, two years after dissemination of the guideline.

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

PSANZ Clinical Practice Guideline for Perinatal Mortality Audit

The PSANZ Clinical Practice Guidelines for Perinatal Mortality Audit have been revised for the second time and have been recommended for use in all tertiary maternity hospitals throughout Australia and New Zealand from 01 July 2009. The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a high quality, systematic approach to the provision of care around the time of perinatal death. One of ANZSA's primary roles is to implement these guidelines through the roll out of IMPROVE sessions and a soon-to-be released e-Learning package. You can access the guidelines at <http://www.stillbirthalliance.org/anz/guideline1.htm>

The Clinical Practice Guideline for Smoking Cessation in Pregnancy

The Clinical Practice Guideline for Smoking Cessation in Pregnancy for maternity health care professionals endorsed by Women's Hospitals Australasia (WHA) has now also been endorsed by ANZSA and is recommended for use. This guideline is designed to assist health care clinicians in maternity hospitals to identify and assisting pregnant women with smoking cessation. This guideline is not intended to be prescriptive, and the recommendations may not be appropriate for use in all circumstances. The guideline is designed to provide reliable, up-to-date information enabling integration of best evidence, clinicians' judgement and individual choice in arriving at decisions about smoking cessation. You can access the guidelines at [http://www.stillbirthalliance.org/anz/doc/Guideline for Smoking Cessation in Pregnancy.pdf](http://www.stillbirthalliance.org/anz/doc/Guideline%20for%20Smoking%20Cessation%20in%20Pregnancy.pdf)

The Clinical Practice Guideline for Decreased Fetal Movement (DFM)

A consultation draft of the Clinical Practice Guideline for Decreased Fetal Movement has been prepared by the ANZ Fetal Movement Study Group for ANZSA. The consultation phase will commence in August 2009 and will be undertaken by ANZSA. Using an evidence-based approach, this guideline aims to improve the management for women with DFM. The guideline covers two key areas, namely information provided to pregnant women regarding DFM, and management recommendations for clinicians caring for women presenting with DFM. ANZSA would like to acknowledge the support of the **Mater Foundation, Brisbane** in providing funds to enable this work to be undertaken.

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND HEALTH PROMOTION (PAHP)

This Committee aims to bring public awareness and attention to issues around stillbirth and to promote evidence-based public health measures to inform the public of the known risks of stillbirth. The committee comprises parents and parent advocates and those involved in delivering support services and promoting research. Current initiatives for the PAHP include

- Finalising the ANZSA Communications Plan,
- Preparing a media strategy for the upcoming International Pregnancy and Infant Loss month of October 2009,
- Launching the ANZSA Connections Newsletter
- Planning a range of activities to raise awareness around the 2010 ISA/ISPID conference.

A major focus for the ANZSA PAHP Committee over the coming year is assisting ISA with the writing of the Lancet series on stillbirth which will be presented at the ISA/ISPID conference. To learn more about the work of the PAPH, please email anz@stillbirthalliance.org

Ros Richardson, ANZSA Public Awareness and Health Promotion Committee Chair



international
stillbirth alliance

ISA NEWS: GLOBAL STILLBIRTH UPDATE

South Africa

ISA 2009 Conference in South Africa

In March the International Stillbirth Alliance held its annual conference in South Africa as a satellite meeting to the Priorities in Perinatal Care Annual conference March 10-13 (<http://www.perinatalpriorities.co.za/Priorities.html>).

This two-day meeting (8-10th March 2009) focussed on audit and prevention strategies for stillbirth and newborn deaths and providing bereavement care in developing countries. The main program themes included:

- Caring for parents after a stillbirth or neonatal death
- Causes of and solutions for perinatal deaths in developing countries
- Identification and recording of perinatal deaths in developing countries
- Classification for perinatal deaths which is usable in developing countries
- The role of growth restriction and infections in perinatal deaths, especially HIV/AIDS

The conference was a success with attendees from far and wide joining in on the stillbirth discussion. For more information visit:

http://www.stillbirthalliance.org/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=3&link_id=33#2009_Conference

United Kingdom

SANDS UK Launches 'Saving Babies Lives Report' 2009

The Saving Babies' Lives Report was launched on 4th March in the House of Commons Terrace Pavilion. As well as MPs and Peers, guests included parents, health professionals, professional organisations, Department of Health representatives, scientists and researchers, Sands staff,

trustees and patrons. Sands called for greater awareness of the issues surrounding the deaths of 17 babies every day making headline news on BBC Breakfast television as well as Radio 4's news agenda-setting Today programme and almost a dozen BBC regional morning radio broadcasts.

Almost 200 parents approached Sands in the months ahead of March 4th offering to contact their local MPs and encourage them to attend our parliamentary launch event. The newly developed SANDS Lobbying Guide gave parents information and tips on how to best communicate the issues to their MP. Many parents received letters back from their MP, with some MPs expressing a desire to become more closely involved in the work of Sands and offering their help in various ways.

Sue Hale, SANDS UK

INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

News around the Globe: Please see the special issue in BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology ([v 116, s1](#)).

This issue contains international reviews about maternal and newborn health, with particular focus on low resource settings.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ANZSA is collaborating with ISA in developing Evidenced based responses to frequently asked questions (FAQ's) from parents about stillbirth. The purpose of these FAQ's is to assist health professionals and bereaved parents and families in providing consistent helpful information on issues around stillbirth. Over 20 FAQ's have been identified by the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) of ISA. A working group of members from the PAC and the Scientific Advisory Committee and ANZSA has been established and the first batch of FAQ's are expected to be available before the end of 2009.

ANZSA POSITION STATEMENTS

ANZSA plans to develop position statements from time to time addressing issues on stillbirth which arise through the media, websites, research reports and other sources. These statements will be included on the ANZSA website and disseminated through newsletters and email notices to members. Please let us know of topics for which you feel an ANZSA position statement may be helpful. Please contact the ANZSA Secretariat at info@stillbirthalliance.org.au with your suggestions.

HOT OFF THE PRESS – RECENTLY PUBLISHED RESEARCH

Recent publications from ANZSA collaborators:

Flenady, V., J. F. Froen, et al. (2009). "An evaluation of classification systems for stillbirth." BMC Pregnancy Childbirth **9**: 24.

Flenady, V., J. MacPhail, et al. (2009). "Detection and management of decreased fetal movements in Australia and New Zealand: a survey of obstetric practice." Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol **49**(4): 358-63.

Headley E, Gordon A, Jeffery HE (2009). "Reclassification of unexplained stillbirths using clinical practice guidelines." ANZ Journal Obs and Gynecol

Warland, J., H. McCutcheon, et al. (2009). "Placental position and late stillbirth: a case-control study." J Clin Nurs **18**(11): 1602-6.

For access more stillbirth research publications please visit the [ISA/ANZSA Stillbirth Research Alert](#). The research alert provides plain language summaries of recent publications about stillbirth. To view older research alerts please visit the ISA website at www.stillbirthalliance.org. The next alert is scheduled for release on 1st October 2009.

Other

The most recent Lancet series is focused on 'Health in South Africa'. A publication of interest to you may be:

[Saving the lives of South Africa's mothers, babies, and children: can the health system deliver?](#) Chopra M, Daviaud E, Pattinson R, et al. *The Lancet*, Early Online Publication, August, 2009.

To access the Lancet series please visit: <http://www.thelancet.com/series/health-in-south-africa>

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THE ANZSA/ISA RESEARCH ALERT?

To receive regular updates of recent stillbirth publications please contact the ANZSA Secretariat at: info@stillbirthalliance.org.au

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Federal Government Funding for ANZSA Parent Support Member Organisations

The Australian Government has allocated \$120.5 million in the 2009-1020 Budget to improve choice and access to maternity services for pregnant women and new mothers in Australia. Within this initiative, Bonnie Babes, SANDS Australia, SIDS and Kids and Post and Antenatal Depression Australia (PANDA) will share in funding to support women and families who experience the death of their baby, with recognition by the Government that bereaved parents often find it helpful to speak with others who have had a similar experience. This funding will support telephone support services, counselling and peer support, with funding to be provided in July 2010.

In this edition we profile three of our member organisations:

Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand (PSANZ)

PSANZ continues to play an important role in fostering research into perinatal medicine in Australia and New Zealand as well as providing advice to Government regarding a variety of clinical, research and ethical issues that impact on perinatal medicine. One issue that the PSANZ council has focussed on over the last 6-12 months, and will continue to focus on over the next 12 months, is the promotion of, and increased engagement with, our early career researchers.

PSANZ Annual Congress: In April (19th-22nd), PSANZ held its 13th Annual Congress of the Society in Darwin. The organising committee prepared a very interesting and stimulating scientific program, designed to engage all PSANZ members with their broad range of interests, as well as an entertaining Social program. The presentations reflected the impressive quality of research that is being conducted in Australia and New Zealand.

Early Career Researcher (ECR) Committee: Over the next couple of years, Council intends to focus on assisting and encouraging early career researchers (ECRs) in perinatal medicine. To this end, two new programs have been initiated. Firstly, a new PSANZ ECR committee has been established, the members of which will be appointed by Council and include ECR representatives from each discipline. The Chair is appointed by Council, will rotate through each of the disciplines on a biannual basis and will become an automatic member of Council to represent all PSANZ ECRs. The aim of this committee is to encourage and support PSANZ ECRs during the difficult early stages of their research career. In particular, their role is to provide feedback to Council on ways the Society can improve support for ECRs and to encourage much greater participation from ECRs in the running of the Society. The inaugural chair of this committee will be Dr. Graeme Polglase, a basic scientist from WA, who has much experience in the functions of an ECR committee, being an inaugural member of the very successful National Genes and Environment in Development (NGED) ECR committee.

SIDS and Kids

NSW Mental Health Infrastructure Grant Program

SIDS and Kids NSW received a one off grant of \$40,000 to conduct an analysis of our existing range of bereavement support services, to:

- Determine if current bereavement support services meet existing consumer needs.
- Establish where gaps may exist in current service provision
- Report on the above and publish outcomes in relevant journals, bringing evidence and public profile to our core service work. This project will be conducted as one in the NSW, ACT and Hunter Regional offices.

The outcomes of this project will enable us to bring formal evidence to describe the role and place of our services in the community for bereaved parents and families. This evaluation will be conducted across the ACT, Hunter Region and NSW MOs and will be reported by December 2009.

Stillbirth Foundation Australia

The Stillbirth Foundation Australia operates to reduce the incidence of stillbirth by funding and encouraging research into stillbirth and increasing public awareness about stillbirth.

Launching in late 2005 as the first charity in Australia dedicated to the sole understanding of stillbirth, the Stillbirth Foundation Australia was created by parents, whose babies had died, and were disappointed with the scarcity of stillbirth research. The Stillbirth Foundation Australia supports research into the cause, prevention and management of stillbirth. Stillbirth Foundation Australia is delighted to currently support: Stillbirth Study – a multi-centre case control study based in Sydney overseen by Professors Heather Jeffery and Jonathan Morris; to which \$75,000 is contributed annually for the employment of research officers; and Viral Study - \$80,000 as a seeding grant to continue the great work of Professor William Rawlinson and his team of scientists investigating viruses and stillbirth.

WHO WE ARE: ANZSA BOARD, COMMITTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

ANZSA Board

Prof David Ellwood (Chair)

School of Clinical Medicine, The Canberra Hospital, ACT.
Sub-specialist in Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Liz Conway

Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Support (SANDS) Australia

Belinda Jennings

King Edward Memorial Hospital, Perth, WA.
Clinical Midwife Consultant

Ros Richardson

General Manager,
SIDS and Kids New South Wales, Sydney,

Dr Chris Tippett

Monash Medical Centre

Dr Adrian Charles (Deputy Chair)

Princess Margaret and King Edward Memorial Hospitals, Perth, WA.
Paediatric and Perinatal Pathologist

Dr Adrienne Gordon

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, NSW.
Neonatal Staff Specialist

Prof Yee Khong

Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide, SA.
Perinatal Pathologist

Tomasina Stacey

South Auckland, NZ
Clinical Midwife Educator

A/Prof Vicki Flenady (Secretary)

Mater Mothers' Research Centre, Mater Hospital, Brisbane, QLD.
Acting Director and Perinatal Epidemiologist

Prof Heather Jeffery

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, NSW.
Neonatologist

Prof Jonathan Morris

University of Sydney, NSW.
Head of the Discipline of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Neonatology

A/Prof Liz Sullivan

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Director of National Perinatal Statistics Unit

ANZSA Committees

Research Committee

Chair: Prof Yee Khong

Clinical Practice and Education Committee

Co-Chairs: Heather Jeffery, Vicki Flenady

Public Awareness and Health Promotion Committee

Co-Chairs: Ros Richardson, Vicki Culling

ANZSA Secretariat

The ANZSA Secretariat functions through the collective effort of Madeleine Elder, Elizabeth Flenady, Anais Gschwind, Laura Koopmans, and Yanlin Liu. We would like to thank the [Mater Foundation](#) and [Mater Health Services](#) for supporting the Australian and New Zealand Stillbirth Alliance (ANZSA) and International Stillbirth Alliance (ISA) Secretariats.

ANZSA MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

ANZSA founding member organisations are:

Australian College of
Midwives

www.midwives.org.au

National SIDS Council of
Australia Ltd - SIDS and Kids

<http://www.sidsandkids.org/>

SANDS Australian National
Council Inc.

<http://www.sands.org.au/>

Bonnie Babes Foundation

<http://www.bbf.org.au/>

Perinatal Society of
Australia and New Zealand
(PSANZ)

<http://www.psanz.org.au/>

Sands New Zealand

<http://www.sands.org.nz/>

Mater Health Services Brisbane

<http://www.mater.org.au/>

The Royal Australian and New
Zealand College of Obstetricians
and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG)

<http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/>

Stillbirth Foundation Australia

<http://www.stillbirthfoundation.org.au/>

How to get involved in ANZSA

Would you like to volunteer, donate, or become a member of one of our committees? If so, please contact Madeleine Elder at info@stillbirthalliance.org.au



Did you find this first edition of ANZSA Connections informative, helpful and valuable? Please send us your thoughts to info@stillbirthalliance.org.au. Look out for the next edition of ANZSA Connections in November 2009. Please contact us if you would like to hear about a particular topic.

Acknowledgements

A special thanks to the editors: Ros Richardson, Vicki Flenady, Madeleine Elder, Elizabeth Flenady as well as Yanlin Liu for his IT support and the members of the Research and Public Awareness and Health Promotion Committees. We would also like to thank PSANZ, SIDS and Kids, and the Stillbirth Foundation Australia for their contributions. Contributions to ANZSA Connections may be edited for content or to fit space available.