



**Perinatal and
Maternal Mortality
Review Committee**

*He matenga ohorere, he wairua uiui,
wairua mutunga-kore*

**Minutes
Wednesday 11 March 2009
Airport Conference Centre, Wellington
Airport**

In Attendance:	Cindy Farquhar (CF) (Chair), Dawn Elder (DE), Deborah Harris (DH), Jane Zuccollo (JZ), Anja Hale (AH), Lesley McCowan (LM), Vicki Culling (VC), Jacqui Anderson (JA), Ted Hughes (TH).
Guests:	Vicki Masson (VM) National Coordinator, Glenys Needs (GN) Mortality Database Manager, Lynn Sadler (LS), Bronwen Pelvin (BP) Senior Advisor Maternity Ministry of Health, Colin Hamlin (CH) Senior Advisor Mental Health Ministry of Health.
Secretariat:	Aphra Green (AG), Emalene Pearson (EP).
Apologies:	Stephanie Palmer (SP).
Agenda Items	
Welcome	CF welcomed the Committee.
Previous Minutes 7 November 2008	Confirmed without amendment.
Chair's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Minister of Health. • Annual Report for 2007–08 to be released on 13 March 2009. • Concerns that Ministry's advice to the Minister was not shared or discussed with the PMMRC. <p>Action: AG to discuss with Maternity Team and suggest that future advice be shared and discussed with PMMRC.</p>
Correspondence	<p><i>In:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation from Buddle Findlay health law team to a presentation by Professor David Studdert. • Letter from Tony Gibling, Manager, Clinical Training Agency, 20 November 2008, re Perinatal Pathology Workshop report • Receipt of Annual Report by Minister's office. <p><i>Out:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Margaret Oates. Thank you letter: Keeping Mothers Healthy workshop, 21 November 2008. • Ms Cathy Cooney, CEO Lakes DHB: Support for local co-ordinator, 9 December 2008.

3rd Annual Report	<p>Teleconference with LS about the content of annual report for 2007.</p> <p>Action: LS to continue to work on draft of report, with draft to be available for review next committee meeting (4 May 2009).</p>
Maternity Action Plan/Maternal & Infant Mental Health	<p>CH provided information to the committee on the Maternal & Infant Mental Health Project. The committee discussed and provided comment.</p> <p>BP gave an update to the committee on the maternity action plan.</p>
National Coordinator's report	<p>VM tabled her report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit to Tairawiti and still birth study day in Taranaki. • CF and VM to attend perinatal meeting at Whanganui. • Perinatal rapid reporting forms, website update. • Audit of 2008 data. • PMMRC 2009 Newsletter will go out Monday, 16 February 2009. • Local Coordinators meeting held 2 March 2009. Attended by 24 Local Co-ordinators from 18 DHB's. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of resources developed by local coordinators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ policies on co-sleeping ○ policies on perinatal loss/still birth ○ multi-consent for perinatal death investigations. • Minor amendments and audit of classification form. • Individual DHB reports containing relevant data from their region. • Protocol on perinatal death. • New Death Certificates: DHBs are being instructed to use up old stock – some have lots of stock left to use. <p>Action: AG to discuss new death certificate issue with Team Leader, Mortality Collection, Ministry of Health.</p>
Working Groups	<p>NE Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting held 25 January 2009. • Forms for study will be trialed in members DHB. • Plan to commence study early 2010. <p>Maternal Mortality Review Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting scheduled for 6 April 2009. <p>SUDI Working Group meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working group held 11 February. <p>The committee discussed co-sleeping issues and noted that not all SUDI deaths occur at home.</p>
Sands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vicki has received funding from Lotteries NZ to carry out research on support for families who have suffered a perinatal death. • Certificate of Life available for babies less than 20 weeks and Inkless kits now available. • Skylight has produced a great resource titled 'Death Without Warning'. • Working on chilled port-a-cot prototype; however needs some

	assistance in finding a company able to manufacture the prototype.
Review of recommendations from 2006 report	<p>AG presented a review of the implementation of recommendations from the PMMRC's first report to the Minister of Health June 2005 to June 2007 (copy tabled). AG gave update on where Memorandum of Understanding with Coroner is at.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMMRC to continue to work with DHBs and the Clinical Training Agency (CTA), to ensure that the Perinatal Pathology Fellowship position is filled. • CF to meet with the Chief Coroner in April.
Legal Advice on sharing information between committees	<p>Discussion of legal issues around data sharing. Committee agree to share de-identified data at a national level with the Child and Youth Mortality Review Committee. Reviews of deaths of interest to take place at a local level once the Terms of Reference have been modified.</p> <p>Action: Secretariat to draft modifications to Terms of Reference for discussion at next meeting.</p>
Inclusion criteria for database	<p>Discussion about the inclusion criteria for perinatal loss.</p> <p>Action: LM is to look at what criteria the Victoria database uses.</p>
Workplan 2008/09, 2009/10	<p>Discussion of ideas for 2009/2010 workplan.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat to draft workplan for 2009/10 and draft cover letter to Minister to accompany workplan. • Draft workplan to be discussed and approved at the PMMRC meeting on 4 May 2009.
	Meeting Closed 4pm
Next Meeting	4 May 2009 – Wellington Airport Conference Centre