

Improving maternal outcomes by admitting antenatal women to a Mother and Baby Unit
– case presentation.

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Biography - Gillian trained as a mental health nurse in London, UK where she worked for over 20 years in a variety of positions before migrating to Perth, WA. In 1999, she commenced work as a perinatal community mental health nurse & her interest in perinatal mental health was born.

Prior to the opening of the Mother Baby Unit at King Edward Memorial Hospital in July 2007 she started working as a clinical nurse and helped develop the initial governance structure. She has undertaken a number of roles at the unit and was promoted to Clinical Nurse Manager in early 2015.

Co-authors

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Objective/background

Explore and outline the benefits of admitting women in the antenatal period to a Mental Health Mother and Baby Unit

Methods

Case presentation of two women admitted to a public Mother and Baby Unit antenatally and post-delivery. One woman psychotic who had previously requested late termination, and the other a woman with an IVF pregnancy conducted overseas – 3 fetuses' implanted and developed to viable pregnancy – increased anxiety in the woman who severely decompensated and considered termination.

The case studies will draw on the clinical pictures of each case highlighting the interventions used to manage the individuals. It will outline the improvement in maternal and social outcomes and the subsequent development of the relationship with the foetus due to early intervention.

Results

Outline the benefits of early intervention and admission in the antenatal period.

Positive outcomes made with improved maternal mental health, improved psychosocial factors, decrease of risk issues, and anecdotal evidence of improved attachment with foetus/baby

Service issues – impact on team, practice changes

Conclusion/discussion

Developments of service provision – consider how as a service outcomes are monitored and collected, and development of local research data for this cohort of patients

3 key words

Antenatal, healthy relationships, service development

References

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