



2011 A MIDWIFERY ODYSSEY

The Australian College of Midwives

17th National Conference
18 - 21 October 2011
Australian Technology Park
Eveleigh, Sydney, Australia

This conference is about taking a journey together, an exciting adventure where we will all seek innovations in our practice, as we create new opportunities for midwives and maternity care.

By being bold and taking chances together as we all look beyond the horizon toward the new challenges and the future.

Our challenge to you all is to reach for the stars as we create a greater sustainability for midwives and mothers and babies.

Presented by the Australian College of Midwives.

www.acm2011.remark.com.au

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS and EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Australian College of Midwives 17th National Conference will be held in Sydney on the 18-21 October 2011.

The key conference themes are:

- Innovation, excitement and adventure
- Taking hold of the future
- Reaching for the stars

As part of the submission process you will be asked to nominate the theme your submission best represents.

Four modes of presentation are

1. Oral presentation during a concurrent session
2. Workshop up to 2hrs in length on a specific topic area
3. Poster presentation
4. Creative arts

You need to nominate which

- 1) Theme
- 2) Mode of presentation you would most like in your submission.

As part of the conference, we are having a **creative arts theme** with designated space allocated during the conference for displays, presentations, workshops, performance and installations. The creative arts can be a powerful medium for the expression of issues relating to women, birth and midwifery. This special theme of the conference aims to celebrate the art and creativity that is often expressed by midwives and women alike. You can indicate your interest in sharing and showcasing your creativity at the conference.

1. PRESENTATION DURING A CONCURRENT SESSION

Each presenter is allocated a maximum of 20 minutes including 5 minutes for discussion. The word limit for concurrent session abstracts is 300 words.

Abstracts for any of the following types of presentations can be submitted:

- Research
- Discussion and scholarly debate
- Innovative practice

Research

Abstracts must provide a brief background to the research; its aim; method/s; key findings; implications for midwifery education, practice and/ or policy, and relevance of the work to this audience. If a presentation is dependent on the findings of research which is still in progress, **assurances must be given** that the research will be completed in time for presentation of the findings at the conference in October 2011.

Discussion and scholarly debate

These will be papers that address a range of topical issues of interest to the conference audience. The abstract (and subsequent presentation) must include the aim or rationale for the topic; reference to relevant literature in the field; a clear account of the argument that the author wishes to make; and evidence of the originality of the topic or area of debate. The implications for educators, clinicians, researchers, service users, and/or policy makers must also be considered, as appropriate.

Innovative practice

These papers should describe an innovation or new way of working. The abstract must include the aim or rationale for the topic; a clear description of the innovation, including its evaluation in practice; evidence of the originality of the practice; a consideration of the likelihood that the innovation could be applied elsewhere; the implications of the practice for educators, clinicians, researchers, service users, and/or policy makers, as appropriate; and the relevance of the work to the conference audience.

PROCESS FOR THE REVIEW OF ORAL PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

Each Abstract will be reviewed by two members of the Scientific Review and Advisory Committee using two templates.

The first template assesses the abstract on general aspects of clarity, interest, congruence with the conference themes, content and originality (max 25 points). The second template specifically assesses the abstract based on whether it is research, discussion and scholarly debate or innovative practice (max 25 points).

GENERAL REVIEW

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Clarity of purpose	Difficult to Determine		Requires some effort to understand		Clearly Articulated	
Interest / relevance to conference	Little interest/ relevance		Some relevance not for all		Very interesting & relevant	
Congruent with conference themes	NO – not congruent		Some congruence		YES – congruent	
Content of the potential presentation clear and consistent	Process unclear & inconsistent		Some clarity & consistency		Process clear & consistent	
Demonstrates innovation, quality & originality in midwifery and maternity care	No – nothing new		Some innovation & originality		Yes – exciting & different	
Grand Total						

SPECIFIC REVIEW

Each Abstract will be reviewed using one (1) of these templates depending on the **type of presentation** sought.

Research

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Aim or rationale	Absent		Some detail		Detailed & appropriate	
Methodology	Absent		Some detail		Detailed & appropriate	
Presentation of Results	Absent		Some detail		Detailed & understood	
Clarity of Discussion	Unclear		Some detail		Clear	
Implications	No		Alluded to		Yes	
Grand Total						

Discussion and Scholarly Debate

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Aim or rationale	Absent		Some detail		Detailed & appropriate	
Literature is relevant in the field	Absent		Some relevance		Detailed relevance	
Strength of Argument	Weak		Fair		Persuasive	
Originality	Non		Some originality		Highly original	
Implications	No		Alluded to		Clear & relevant	
Grand Total						

Innovative Practice

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Aim or rationale	Absent		Some detail		Detailed & appropriate	
Description of the innovation and evidence of originality	Absent		Some description		Detailed description	
Evaluation of innovation in practice	Absent		Some description		Detailed description	
Likelihood that the innovation could be applied elsewhere	Not evident		Some likelihood		Strong likelihood	
Implications	No		Alluded to		Clear & relevant	
Grand Total						

2. WORKSHOP ON A SPECIFIC TOPIC AREA

A workshop is an interactive session with one or more presenters who are experts in the subject they are presenting. A workshop will be allocated up to 2 hours (3 hours if you can demonstrate why you need additional time).

A workshop should allow significant time - at least half of the time, for audience participation, exchange of ideas or developing skills. Workshops can be based around practical or clinical skills (such as perineal repair, neonatal / maternal resuscitation and other obstetric and neonatal emergency interventions) or more abstract concepts (such as campaigning or use of the media). The individual wishing to lead a workshop should submit an abstract (maximum 500 words), which makes clear the aims, objectives, need for and focus on how the audience will participate in the workshop session. This should include any specific requirements for interaction that will have an effect on the room layout and the numbers of participants who can be accommodated (i.e. equipment and room/ desk set up).

PROCESS FOR THE REVIEW OF WORKSHOP ABSTRACTS

Each Abstract will be reviewed by two members of the Scientific Review and Advisory Committee using two templates. The first is the same template as in the Review of Oral Presentations (max 25 points). The second template specifically assesses the abstract based on the following criteria (max 25 points).

Workshop

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Aim or rationale	Absent		Some detail		Detailed & appropriate	
Method or approach taken	Absent		Some description		Detailed description	
Evidence of the need for a workshop on this topic	Weak		Some evidence		Highly evident	
Likelihood that workshop would extend both the skills & knowledge of attendees	Not evident		Some likelihood		Strong likelihood	
Implications	No		Alluded to		Clear & relevant	
Grand Total						

3. POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Poster presentations are visual displays of material to be presented; they constitute an interactive and communicative medium, usually combining text and graphics information. Posters may be research or non-research related. The word limit for poster abstracts is 300 words. Posters will be displayed during the conference.

It is expected that presenter/s should be available at the poster for a designated hour with copies (printed copies for circulation???) of their poster in order to discuss it with conference delegates. Specific information regarding size and mounting requirements will be provided with the notice of acceptance.

PROCESS FOR THE REVIEW OF POSTER ABSTRACTS

Each abstract will be reviewed by two members of the Scientific Review and Advisory Committee using two templates. The first is the same template as in the Review of Oral Presentations (max 25 points). The second template specifically assesses the abstract based on the following criteria (max 25 points).

Poster Presentation

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Aim or rationale	Absent		Some detail		Detailed & appropriate	
Methods	Absent		Some description		Detailed description	
Results, findings or important messages outlined	Weak		Some evidence		Highly evident	
Reason why this would be suitable as a poster	Not evident		Some reasons		Strong reasons	
Implications	No		Alluded to		Clear & relevant	
					Grand Total	

4. EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: Creative arts - Drama /Stories/Performance/Art and more...

The creative arts can be a powerful medium for expression of issues relating to women, birth and midwifery. This special theme of the conference aims to celebrate the art and creativity that is often expressed by midwives and women alike.

Do you: Sing? Knit? Paint? Make films? Tell stories? Perform? You are invited to showcase these creative skills and share them with others

Such creative forms can enable participation by those who may otherwise be excluded; provide a platform for cultural exchange; highlight innovative ways of working with women; demonstrate creative approaches to education and educational resources; and have impact reaching beyond the traditional format of a conference presentation.

Expressions of Interest may be submitted for presentations, displays, installations or workshops that use the creative arts to project important insights that are relevant to the aims of the conference. These can include works based on film, storytelling, drama, art, craft or any other creative media.

The Expressions of Interest must include, and will be reviewed on the basis of, the aim or rationale for the submission; a clear account of the media to be employed and of the content of the work; why the work is important; and the relevance of the work to the conference. We will have a designated space for the creative arts contributions and will be woven throughout the conference. If your work is an installation or workshop please inform us of the space you will require. For example, will you require wall space and if so how much? Will you require a room to perform in and if so what size room will you need?. Would you also please indicate the level of noise that your activity will generate, for example, if you are drumming we need to know how noisy it will be as this will help determine the room you are allocated!

CREATIVE ARTS REVIEW

Each contribution for the Creative Arts component will be reviewed by a small team. We will use the template to assess the contributions based on the following criteria (max 25 points).

Please circle which mode the Creative Arts contribution is: presentation, workshop or installation

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Aim or rationale	Absent		Some detail		Detailed & appropriate	
Clear account of the media to be employed	Absent		Some clarity		Clear account	
Relevance to conference theme	Not very relevant		Relevant		Highly relevant	
Requirements						
Grand Total						