

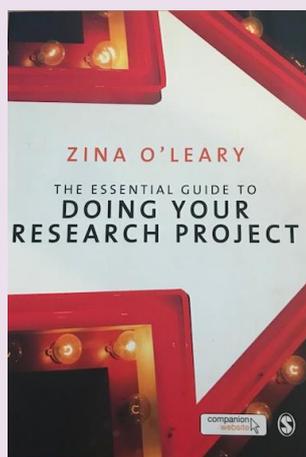
Hunter New England Nursing & Midwifery (NMRC) Research Review

Issue 1: July 2018

Let Us Know

About publications, journal articles or books authored by HNE Health nurses and midwives. In year 2018, so far Twenty one published journal articles have been identified as being authored by the HNE Health nurses and midwives. We would like to recognise the work of nurses and midwives in the future series of our newsletter.

Recommended Reading



Chapter 6 “Working with Literature” (pp 71-87) in “The Essential Guide to Doing Your Research Project” by Zina O’Leary explains you about the role of literature in a clinical practice, type of literature that you look at and how to go about with literature during a research process.

Researcher in Profile

Each edition of the NMRC Research Review profiles a nurse or midwife clinician researcher working within the HNELHD. If you or one of your peers is undertaking practice-based research we would welcome you contacting us so that we can profile their work. In this edition we are pleased to feature Dr Leah East. She is an Associate Professor in Nursing (Primary Health Care) and holds a conjoint position with the University of New England and Hunter New England Health.



Assoc Prof Leah East

Associate Professor Leah East has a vast array of experience inclusive of academia, leadership, consultancy, governance and research. She is a passionate Registered Nurse and scholar who believes in safe equitable healthcare for all individuals.

Leah’s current portfolio includes overseeing the Coledale Health and Education Clinic located in Tamworth. The Clinic was established to increase access to

quality health care services for members of the Coledale community, and to provide undergraduate students with innovative clinical opportunities and experiences in regional NSW, with an emphasis on community engagement, interprofessional practice, leadership and client-centred care. The Clinic is a dynamic multidisciplinary hub for the local community, continues to expand in size and is led through partnerships with key stakeholders, community engagement and evaluation.

Leah’s research portfolio is largely focused on risk management and promoting wellbeing within the context of vulnerable and marginalised populations. Her research interests include women’s health, public health, family health, Primary Health Care, adolescent health, sexual health and wellbeing, nursing, patient experiences and patient safety. She also has a range of research methodological experience with particular expertise in qualitative research and approaches. Leah is a well published researcher, known at both an international and national level and is currently working on numerous projects within the region. Current projects are focused on patient safety, promoting excellence, methamphetamine use and

promoting wellbeing among vulnerable groups.

Leah also currently teaches across the suite of post graduate programs within the School of Health. Her teaching experience extends across both undergraduate and postgraduate nursing and at all year levels, in addition to supervising Higher Research Degree students at the Masters and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) level.

Contact Researcher

Assoc Prof Leah East

Associate Professor in Nursing
(Primary Health Care) - School
of Health
University of New England

Email: Leah.East@une.edu.au

Research Project in Profile

Karen McLaughlin is a Clinical Midwifery Specialist who has worked for Hunter New England Local Health District for the past 27 years. She diversified from clinical midwifery practice in 2007 by becoming a clinical research officer for a randomized controlled trial examining the management of women with asthma during pregnancy. This sparked a desire to do more research and Karen soon found herself doing research studies, completing a Master of Philosophy (Midwifery) (2014). She incorporated her own qualitative research project with examining midwives knowledge of asthma and pregnancy and their perceived role in antenatal asthma management.

After completing her masters, Karen vowed never to study again! However, the opportunity to commence a PhD that further examined asthma management in pregnancy was presented to her and she was unable to resist. Karen, never being one to shy away from a challenge, accepted this opportunity and commenced her PhD studies on a part-time basis in 2015. Realising that working three jobs and doing a PhD was not ideal, Karen is now doing her PhD on a fulltime basis whilst continuing to work clinically on weekends.

Karen's study contributes to a larger multi-site randomized controlled trial examining the use of Fractional Exhaled Nitric Oxide (FENO)-based asthma management during pregnancy and the outcomes for mothers and their babies. Karen's study has a mixed

methods design and aims to explore usual antenatal asthma management across Australia and also to examine the acceptability and feasibility of introducing a FENO-based asthma management strategy into antenatal clinics. So far Karen has managed to appraise the current asthma in pregnancy guidelines nationally. She currently has two surveys, targeting health professionals who provide antenatal care as well as pregnant women with a diagnosis of asthma.

The links for these surveys are attached, for those eligible to complete or to pass onto those who are eligible. Karen has commenced the qualitative data collection component of her study, attending interviews with health professionals and mothers asking about the feasibility and acceptability of this novel asthma management strategy (FENO).

She hopes to complete her PhD by the end of 2019, after which time she vows not to study again (for a while anyway)!



Karen McLaughlin

Karen's PhD Thesis is by publication and so far she has published two articles.

1. Murphy VE, Jensen ME, Mattes J, Hensley MJ, Giles WB, Peek MJ, et al. The Breathing for Life Trial: A randomised controlled trial of fractional exhaled nitric oxide (FENO)-based management of asthma during pregnancy and its impact on perinatal outcomes and infant and childhood respiratory health. *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*. 2016; 16 (1) (no pagination) (111).

2. McLaughlin.K. FM, Jensen M.E., Murphy V.E., Review and appraisal of guidelines for the management of asthma during pregnancy. *Women and Birth*. 2018.

These survey links provide further information about the data collection process of my study.

For Mothers:

<https://redcap.hmri.org.au/surveys/?s=P3N3DHLWEJ>

For Health Professionals:

<https://redcap.hmri.org.au/surveys/?s=NR78PWYW49>

Welcome

We are happy to have Se Ok as a recent addition to our NMRC team.

Se Ok has extensive experience in project management, has been successful in securing competitive funding for projects she has led and has a number of publications.

She will play a key role in providing support to Nursing and Midwifery clinicians participating in research activity across the LHD and the collective work of the Nursing and Midwifery Research Centre in achieving its strategic research objectives.



Se Ok Ohr, RN, B.N, MHM, PhD

Congratulations



Dr Michelle Giles, CNC NMRC
Congratulations to Michelle who has completed her PhD after 6 years of part time study, graduating in April this year. Michelle's study asked the question "What is the Actual, Expected and Potential of the Nurse Consultant Role across health service delivery contexts". The role has been shown through this research to be flexible, complex, highly engaged in service delivery on the one hand and struggling for recognition and clarity of purpose on the other. This study illuminated several key constructs central to the success of the role that differentiate it from other advanced practice roles. These are: engagement across organisational and professional boundaries; connectivity and networking in the role; clinical leadership and influence across organisations and within interprofessional teams. These constructs are enabled through job characteristics such as job autonomy, job support, job satisfaction and role clarity. These findings offer a unique and more contemporary understanding of how NC roles can be engaged and deployed by providing new constructs through which to conceptualise the NC role in a way that better supports its development and operationalisation for optimal fit and performance.

Useful Resources

Have you seen the new Nursing and Midwifery Research web portal yet?

<http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/working-together/Pages/Nursing-and-Midwifery-Research-Centre.aspx>

Other Resources

Research Innovation Portal has resources that support innovation and research and provides information on available research training opportunities across the LHD as well as statewide initiatives. For more information visit

<http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/working-together/Pages/Home.aspx>

Upcoming Events

Seminars:

Each year the NMRC hosts a number of research seminars. The aim of these seminars is to promote, support and profile research being undertaken by nurses and midwives across the District and to provide an opportunity for clinicians interested in research to learn and network with other likeminded peers.

To access the 2018 Seminar Series visit <http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/working-together/Pages/NMRC--Research-Seminar-Series.aspx>

Workshops:

Each year the NMRC provides a number of research skills workshops for clinician nurses and midwives wanting to improve their research skills. The aim of the skills workshops is to support research capacity and capability amongst the disciplines of Nursing and Midwifery within HNELHD.

To access the 2018 Research Skills Development Workshops program visit <http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/working-together/Pages/NMRC-Skills-Workshops.aspx>

Conferences:

7th Rural Health and Research Congress

The call for abstracts is now open for the for the Rural Health and Research Congress in Tamworth from 5-7 September 2018. For more information visit

http://intranet.hne.health.nsw.gov.au/latest_news_from_michael_dirienzo/driving_research_and_innovation2

Opportunities

Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) RFA: Scaling-up of evidence-based interventions for the prevention or management of hypertension and/or diabetes. For more information visit [National Health and Medical Research Council](#)

Hunter Care Research Alliance (HCRA) grant opportunities 2018. <http://www.hcra.com.au/grant-opportunities>