NT Diabetes in Pregnancy Partnership Newsletter

June 2017

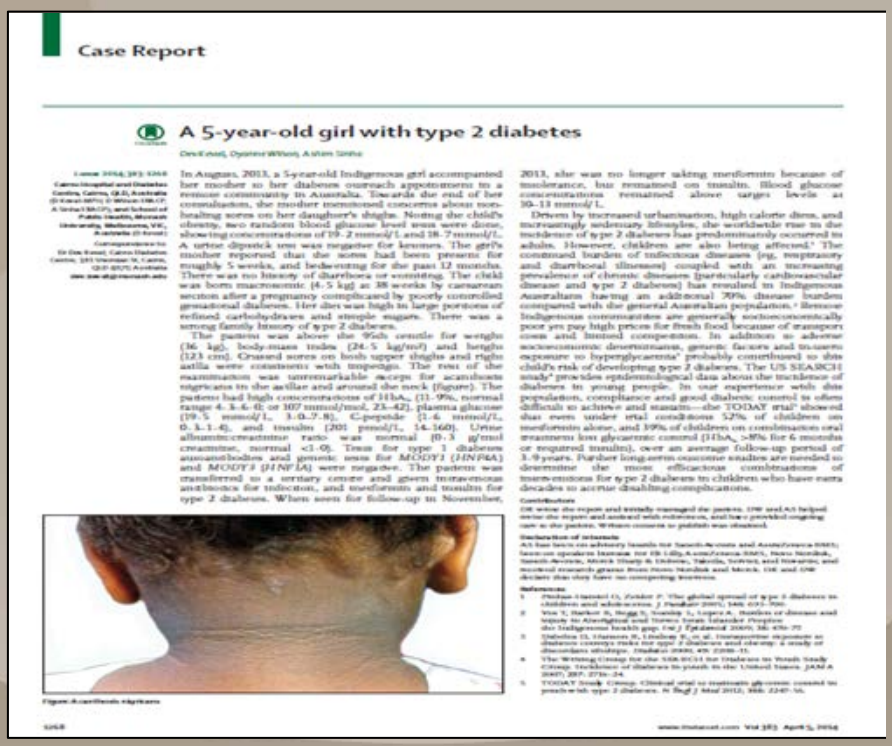
Greetings !

The NT & FNQ Diabetes in Pregnancy Partnership has launched our own website. To find information about partnership activities, updates and links to the NT and FNQ Diabetes in Pregnancy Clinical Register please visit us at http://www/dipp.org.au

AND THE BIG NEWS IS….

Recruitment to the PANDORA (Pregnancy And Neonatal Diabetes Outcomes in Remote Australia) cohort has finally been completed! More than 1100 women have participated and our last baby was measured on February 17th, 2017. The follow-up of the mothers and children is ongoing. WAVE 1 continues to assess children up to 4 - 5 years of age. There have been assessments on around 150 children by the team.

Remember this?



Case Report

A 5-year-old girl with type 2 diabetes

An article published in the Lancet (2014) described the diagnosis of type 2 diabetes in a young Indigenous girl living in Far North Queensland. Diabetes in pregnancy, diabetes in youth – is there really a connection? We are hearing more about the transgenerational cycle of diabetes, the influences of the intrauterine environment and chronic disease in the offspring of women with hyperglycaemia in pregnancy, obesity in pregnancy and the role of epigenetics. Whilst research into these associations has been undertaken in the NT by PANDORA, what do we know about similar high risk populations?

http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(14)60487-6/fulltext

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On September 8th, the NT & FNQ DIP Partnership will be holding our Annual Stakeholder meeting and educational symposium.

We are privileged to host international researcher and paediatric endocrinologist **Dr Brandy Wicklow** from Manitoba Canada, whose work focuses on the intergenerational impact of type 2 diabetes in First Nations communities. Dr Wicklow has led research regarding youth onset of type 2 diabetes in First Nations families and communities which will be of particular interest to many of us working in the NT and FNQ and seeing this trend in our own workplaces.

Invitation flyers have been sent by email, so if you have not received yours please contact Cherie Whitbread whose email address is at the bottom of this page.

Other news…..

NT DIP Clinical Register

We have over 1700 women referred to the clinical register in just over 5 years. We have not managed to achieve complete coverage of numbers during that time and thus the NT DIP Clinical Register has tightened our alignment with an Opt out version of consent. This enables women to have their clinical information entered into a centralised repository for the purposes of clinical management and audits and quality assurance activities involving de-identified data. The NT DIP Clinical Register promotes best practice with regards to ensuring that whenever possible, women are informed about their referral to clinical register and that their options of participation are explained including that they can ask to have their details removed from the clinical register at any time. Women who are unable to be approached will not have any identifiable data shared via web-based clinical register programs.

If you are unsure how to refer a woman to the clinical register or have never received a clinical register report and would like to do so, please see our website dipp.org.au or email Cherie.Whitbread@nt.gov.au

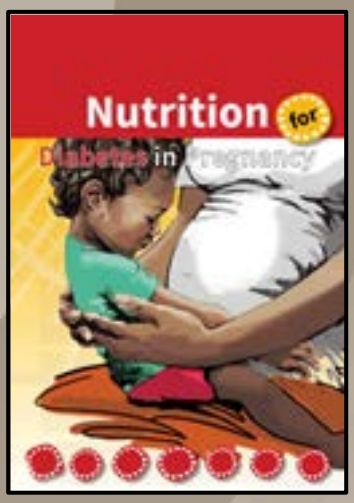
Models of Care

Managing hyperglycaemia in pregnancy to improve health outcomes for women and their babies has always been a focus of partnership activities. To minimise risks associated with diabetes in pregnancy, we have advocated for early testing and pro-active interventions regarding glycaemic control. Extension of this clinical care to the inter-pregnancy interval (before the first trimester and after the third) is just as important – we are currently planning a systems intervention to support women and health professionals as we work together to improve maternal and child health. Visits from the partnership (Dr Christine Connors and Cherie Whitbread) have been held in Katherine and Nhulunbuy in collaboration with the NT Primary Health Network and activities are also planned for Darwin and Alice Springs.

Health Professional Survey

In 2012, we surveyed health professionals working in the NT about improving health service delivery for women with diabetes in pregnancy in remote Australia. The published results of the survey by Edwards et al (ANZJOG 2014) discussed healthcare professionals' views and practices in DIP screening and Management. We are circulating a similar survey to assess any changes to practice in association with partnership activities and to ask about health service delivery in the inter-pregnancy interval. Please do fill out our survey https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N22F5X3 , thanks to those who have already done so, your feedback is invaluable.

Nutrition for Diabetes in Pregnancy resource has been released.



If you would like to request copies for your organisation or work group, please email the below address regarding how many you require.

Tamie.Needham@nt.gov.au

The electronic copy of Nutrition for Diabetes in Pregnancy resource is available to be downloaded from

http://www.healthylivingnt.org.au/public.cfm/Indigenous_Resources/3/77/

Publications

"Pre-conception Care for women with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Mixed Methods Study of Provider Knowledge and Practice" describes health practitioners practice in the NT with regard to pre-conception counselling for woman with type 2 diabetes in the NT. The article by Jess Klein, Jacqui Boyle and Renae Kirkham et al has been accepted for publication in Diabetes Research in Clinical Practice 2017.

Research Opportunities

The NT & FNQ Partnership has opportunities for health professionals considering further study at PhD, Masters, or Honors degree. Research associated with diabetes in pregnancy includes qualitative research methods regarding health systems and models of care and quantitative approaches for the more detailed PANDORA study. Specific opportunities include mixed-methods of health systems intervention to improve maternal health post-partum and inter-pregnancy, and improving models of care for diabetes in pregnancy in FNQ; and qualitative research exploring women's experience of diabetes in pregnancy.

For further information please contact Louise.Maple-Brown@menzies.edu.au

Once again, the partnership would like to thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you in September!