Matrix Framework of PERINATAL DEPRESSION and ANXIETY DISORDERS



Aim of the framework:

- Provide guidelines on the core skills required by health professionals involved in screening, referral and providing support and/or treatment for depression and related disorders in the perinatal period.
- Ensure uniform standards of comprehensive clinical care informed by clinical practice guidelines (Centre of Perinatal Excellence, 2017). Promote best practice across Australia for perinatal mental health training, informed by the Clinical Practice Guidelines.

- Inform organisations currently providing or developing professional development courses.
- Inform the development of National Standards against which existing training programs and services can be assessed.

This matrix defines different levels of: training, content areas to be covered, and which professionals could be the target of training.

Who for	
	Awa
General community Parents Significant others Health professionals Indigenous health professionals General health workers Childcare workers Wookplaces Workplaces	Awareness/Health Promotion/ Prevention
This me to equil undersy and with and/or	
This module is designed for health professionals to equip them with knowledge and a basic understanding of perinatal mental health disorders and with the skills to screen perinatal women and/or men for depression and anxiety: MCFH Nurses MCFH Nurses Allied health All Perinatal health professionals Indigenous health professionals General health workers Obstetricians Paediatricians	Basic Skills
This module is designed for health professionals who have completed the 'Basic' Skills Online Training Package and are equipped to screen for perinatal depression and anxiety. It is specifically targeted at health professionals who want to support those with mild levels of perinatal depression and/or anxiety and is also helpful for those who will have some continued contact with clients across the perinatal period, even if they are not the primary professional managing the depressive episode. Thus, they will need some basic understanding of how to effectively work and support those experiencing mild depressive and anxiety symptoms at the present time, or who have been referred to an appropriate health professional for further assessment and treatment. This may include: Maternal and Child Health Nurses Maternal Health Nurses Social Workers Obstetricians	SKILLS TRAINING Basic Skills Plus
"Intermediate" skills are relevant to health professionals who will be facilitating the treatment of mild to moderate anxiety and depression symptoms. For more severe or complex cases, specialist providers may be referred to and can be considered to have 'advanced' skills. The skills below can be developed through didactic information and workshops, as well as case presentations, but importantly need to be consolidated through <u>supervised</u> practice. Below is an outline of skills considered to fall in the "Intermediate" category and are designed for various professional groups who have sufficient background (e.g. counselling skills) to manage mild and moderate mental health nurses GPs Child and Family Health Nurses /Maternal and Child Health Nurses Psychologists Mental Health Nurses Midwives (with sufficient background/ specialist training) Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and other Allied Health professionals with relevant mental health expertise Health workers with mental health expertise Health workers with mental health expertise, e.g., Indigenous	Intermediate Skills
This level of training is designed for health professionals who already have extensive mental health training and are thus assumed to already have the knowledge covered in the Basic Skills Online Training Package, as well as the skills outlined in the Basic Plus and Intermediate Skills Online Training Package, as well as the skills Section. This section provides an overview of the essential skills that health professionals with a mental health background ought to have, specific to the perinatal depression and/or anxiety, while also managing other co-morbid mental health issues and psychosocial factors that may be present. These specialists will also have the skills and competency regarding differential diagnosis and be able to make a final diagnosis, Psychiatrists Psychologists Mental Health Nurses Mental Health Clinicians Enhanced Maternal and Child Health workers Appropriate professional staff in Residential Units Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and other Allied Health professionals with relevant mental health expertise	Advanced Assessment and Intervention Modules

Overall Objective:

period, their families, other health professionals and the wider community on perinatal mental health, the To promote and educate women in the perinatal perinatai depression and/or anxiety. importance of decreasing stigma associated with families during the perinatal period, and the and negative outcomes; how to best support issues and factors that contribute to both positive

In summary, some of the key objectives include:

- associated consequences. anxiety and contributing factors and antenatal and postnatal depression and period, the high prevalence rates of Raising community awareness of the challenges that arise in the perinatal
- Understanding:
- perinatal mental health disorders, as including the types and prevalence of well as the most common signs and what perinatal mental health is,
- the risk factors that contribute to perinatal mental health disorders
- and their family anxiety on women, infants, partners the impact of untreated PND and
- the protective factors that can perinatal mental health in men
- perinatal period and/or improve facilitate positive wellbeing during the
- the importance of seeking help early.

Learning Objectives

- and assessment of perinatal mental health Understanding the importance of screening
- appropriate: and their families, including information on information, support and help for women Understanding where to access
- including how to provide appropriate Educational and support materials Information and support lines

the perinatal period

Have knowledge of Clinical Practice Guidelines for mental health disorders in

- Support and treatment services reassurance and information
- different aspects of life. anxiety and this impact this can have on Understanding the experiences of those living with perinatal depression and
- practices regarding this issue. community level and promoting positive Recognising the importance of reducing issues, both at the individual and stigma associated with mental health

Overall Objective:

- To be aware of the key features and prevalence rates of the perinatal mental National Guideline. health disorders as covered in the 2017
- impact on infant health and wellbeing. various disorders and understanding the Knowing how to differentiate between the

Screening and Psychosocial assessment

- and limitations importance of screening, its application Understand the background, purpose and
- Understanding how to administer, score assessment tools as per the National and interpret recommended psychosocial
- skills and client centred communication results to women using basic counselling material, as well as communicate these and integrate with other assessment Interpret the EPDS, ANRQ/PNRQ scores
- comprehensive clinical care including risk assessment for a broader psychosocial assessment, Understand the importance of conducting
- related disorders in the perinatal period interventions for anxiety, depression and Have awareness of evidence-based
- where and how to refer to relevant referral Understand the importance of knowing interventions and support pathways and existing treatments,
- management strategies of acute situations Have awareness of early intervention and

Ensure knowledge of relevant legislation

Understand scope of practice

Overall Objective:

are pre-requisites. Knowledge and skills covered in the "Basic Skills"

This module aims to provide:

- Knowledge on how to manage clients with health and overall wellbeing. discussions regarding the client's mental on how to integrate these skills in positive and supportive relationship with counselling skills that can promote a either do not require onward referral or are during routine care consultations who mild depressive and anxiety symptoms problem solving), with a particular focus the client (e.g. active listening, empathy waiting for treatment, through the use of
- Knowledge of perinatal mental health are escalating? additional support or that her symptoms indicators that they may require some and anxiety - i.e. what are some key relevant to the subgroup of women or men who initially present with mild depression disorders and information particularly
- How to encourage clients to follow-up with any referrals made to other mental health risk factors. mental health issues and psychosocial emotions and reactions when addressing The importance of managing one's own professionals and engage other services

Overall Objective:

Knowledge and skills described in the "Basic

- assessment of perinatal mental health difficulties and develop a detailed management plan.
- Skills in management of mild-moderate perinatal mental health disorders.
- Comprehensive knowledge of pathways to
- A basic knowledge of therapeutic interventions for mother, infant and father
- Understanding the importance and role of

module aims to provide: Skills" section of the matrix is a pre-requisite. This

- Knowledge of how to conduct in-depth

- and significant other/partner.
- supervision for health professionals.

Overall Objective:

"Basic and Intermediate Skills" are assumed Knowledge and core competencies covered in the

This section aims to provide

- health disorders of moderate to severe perinatal mental Further training in specialist management
- Comprehensive knowledge of:
- evidence based treatment options mental health disorders for moderate/ severe perinatal
- management of complex cases including infant and partner issues
- Differential diagnosis

Advanced Assessment and Intervention Modules

health disorders and in-depth treatments. Managing moderate to severe perinatal mental

Undertake differential diagnoses as required.

areas/topics than others; thus rather than a more familiar with some of the following professionals from various backgrounds, will be Choice of Modules: It is likely that health the areas most relevant to their specific line of 'complete package' the following overview can be work and current gaps in knowledge base. used as a guide which clinicians can use to select

- What is perinatal mental health? The types of perinatal mental health
- The prevalence of perinatal mental health
- health disorders Signs and symptoms of perinatal mental
- mental health disorders Risk factors that contribute to perinatal
- at an individual, family and community level Impact of perinatal depression and anxiety
- Impact of untreated PND and anxiety on perinatal depression and anxiety challenges faced by those affected by Awareness about the lived experience and
- women, infants and their family and the
- information on appropriate: How to support/help, including providing
- Infolines
- Educational and support materials
- Referrals to Primary Health Care (e.g. to Support and treatment services
- Promotion of health promotion campaigns
- consequences of disclosure Appropriate reassurance / info about

and community awareness campaigns

Content

Psychoeducation

1) Overview of 'Perinatal' Mental Health

- Baby blues
- Antenatal Depression (symptoms and
- Antenatal and Postnatal Anxiety (the importance of anxiety as a target for
- Related Disorders: Schizophrenia,
- and anxiety
- and babies (including attachment and development of the child) effects on both short and long term
- Why screen? Purpose and importance of screening

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past context including risk factors understanding the woman's current and comprehensive clinical care -

How to talk to women about screening and further assessment

2

- and motivational interviewing skills to
- Focussing on the whole woman and her life situation (broader psychosocial
- Integrating assessment in routine
- Exploring women's responses to screening (include consumer

- Postnatal Depression
- Bipolar Disorder, Psychoses, Personality
- Understanding risk factors of depression
- Short- and longer-term impact of perinatal disorders on mothers, fathers
- Prevalence of perinatal disorders and its
- Difficulties in help-seeking beliefs and behaviours of women and their families
- Psychological and social assessment for

- Basic client centred communication skills
- How to raise screening with the EPDS
- consultations

Supportive Care:

Assessment, understanding onward referral and assumed Screening, Basic Psychosocial Pathways to Care. Content covered under "Basic Skills" module is

Basic management skills

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manage mild depression and anxiety and empathy, reflecting; problem solving) to support women who may be waiting for Counselling Skills (active listening,

Comorbid and differential diagnoses

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co-morbid issues that are often present disorders, differential diagnoses, and the suggesting increasing severity of mood understanding signs and symptoms disorders, with a particular focus on Knowledge of perinatal mental health psychosocial difficulties). substance abuse, interpersonal and (e.g. other mental health disorders;

services How to encourage clients to follow-up with any referrals made to other mental health professionals and engage other

Introduction to Motivational Interviewing Skills - how can we encourage clients to presence of a positive EPDS if they are reluctant, particularly in the engage with services/ health professionals

The importance of managing one's own

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seeking support when needed psychosocial risk factors with client's; addressing mental health issues and Dealing with one's own reactions when

2

- Motivational interviewing

- and Group skills) Psychological interventions (Individua
- abuse and other psychosocial Managing family violence substance
- Medication

difficulties.

- Women
- Parent-Infant relationship
- Fathers/partners/significant others

Didactic Content:

Managing mild to moderate perinatal mental [to be supported by supervision]

Content covered under Basic Skills onward referral and Pathways to Care psychosocial assessment, understanding module is assumed screening, basic

Assessment

Introduction to in depth psychosocial others - see Attachment 1 example of some competencies expected to be infants, couples, families and significant assessment for mothers, fathers, partners,

Diagnosis

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- How to differentiate between different morbidity. and related disorders including coadjustment disorder, depressive episodes mental health problems such as
- How to identify aetiological factors (formulation skills). important for management focus

Treatment

4

- Introduction to treatment, including:
- Consolidating Counselling skills

- Introduction to treatment options for:

<u>_</u> Overview

[to be supported by supervision]

Content covered under "Basic", "Basic Plus" and "Intermediate Skills" modules

2 Assessment and Diagnosis

- Specialised assessment for mothers, fathers, infants, also covering:
- Parent-Infant Relationships and/or anxiety. e.g. observing and affected by perinatal depression parent and infant; how do you know i assessing the interactions between relationship has been adversely Assessing if the parent-infant
- or neglect are present and make a clinical judgement if assess whether issues such as abuse appropriate or not? How do you responsiveness to her baby's cues How do you assess a parent's interaction difficulties are present?
- migration stress etc). DV; financial/housing issues; infant alcohol issues; relationship difficulties; as psychosocial factors (e.g. drug & other mental health disorders as well may be present when a parent is of the various co-morbid issues that Co-morbidity – Advanced knowledge personality disorders, trauma, refugee sleep/settling/feeding difficulties severely depressed/anxious including
- in a diagnostic interview, including administration of standardised measures, How to diagnose moderate to severe in order for a formal diagnosis to be perinatal mental health disorders – Knowledge of what needs to be covered

Treatment/ Referrals/ Management

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- Specialised treatment electives/ units available for:
- Medication: Knowledge of common medication warranted and who is woman currently on medication? health professional that is seeing a medication or b) as a non-medical professional prescribing the know either as a) the health treatment? What do you need to responsible for managing this side of doses, side-effects etc. When is medications prescribed, typical

Recommended screening and psychosocial assessment tools

- What is the EPDS? What does is measure? What doesn't it measure?
- What is the ANRQ? What does is
- Limitations of tools

- assessment (digital and pen-and-paper) Approaches to screening and
- Tools in other languages

How to administer The EPDS and how to

- Recap how to introduce the screening importance of basic communication in and assessment to women and the regards to introducing screening tools
- Instructions for completion
- When to administer (single time versus repeated measures)
- What do scores mean?
- Key cut-off scores (threshold ≥13)
- Thoughts of self harm e.g. Question 10

Content

How to administer The ANRQ and how to

5)

Instructions for completion

When to administer (single time versus

- What do scores mean? repeated measures)
- Key cut-off scores (threshold ≥25)
- Inclusion of drug and alcohol and family violence questions

Providing feedback following screening and assessment

Having a conversation with women about

6

- Importance of basic client centred their responses on the EPDS and ANRQ/PNRQ
- and assessment results with women regards to feedback around screening communication/counselling skills in
- COPE Fact Sheets for further information

multidisciplinary care planning for perinatal depression and anxiety (e.g. CBT; IPT). Understanding Specialised psychological services; non-voluntary care. working with area mental health discharged, continuity of care and for managing the mother once warranted; and who is responsible residential/inpatient unit is are and when a referral to a what the local inpatient care units specialised psychological treatments inpatient care. Detailed training in depression in women, including treatments for ante and postnatal

- Partners: Understanding the issues appropriate treatment options for fathers with depression and/or Fathers: Understanding and anxiety during the perinatal period. depression in new fathers, recognising the occurrence of
- training in appropriate treatment options and services available for couples i.e. Couples Counselling, with a focus on the perinatal period Couples: Knowledge of and/or and available support services.

perinatal depression and/or anxiety present for partners of women with

- aware of the issues and difficulties she may be experiencing herself and treatment options and support services relevant for significant Significant Others: Knowledge of what support may be beneficial for PND/Anxiety, it is important to be practical/emotional support to her has a significant role in providing others - e.g. if a woman's mother and/or training in the issues; daughter who is experiencing
- Security; HUGS). infants and families (e.g. Circle of services available for vulnerable treatment options and support appropriately. Knowledge of treatment effectively and indicated and who can provide this Infant Therapy is, when it is Infants: Understanding what Parent

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Ethics, Duty of Care and Supervised Practice

Not applicable

- It is expected that all health professionals will conduct themselves in a manner that promotes and adheres to the professional code of ethics which is relevant to one's own service provider group and will be accountable for decisions made
- health professionals' clinical practice. It is also expected that issues regarding appropriate supervised practice, including access to ongoing support and supervision for health professionals across all skill levels will be an integral part of each

Duty of Care and Supervision:

- Professional responsibilities and duty of care principles related to the screening community) context] as well as externally within the within the organisation [depending on knowledge of referral pathways, both of having and building upon relevant skills with women; recognising the importance the screening and assessment process and assessment process – e.g. ensuring that there is adequate time to complete
- additional supports that may be required. to discuss challenging clients and with the screening process, including time professional support for issues associated have the opportunity to access Front line health professionals will need to

Ethics, Duty of Care and Supervised Practice

- professional support.
 - Knowing how, where and where to access numerous miscarriages etc. previously experienced domestic violence, circumstances - e.g. you too have support for one's self (i.e. recognising the woman's presentation and/or notice yourself becoming affected by the need to be mindful of and what to do if you importance and knowing how to manage from your client and their presenting your own emotions and 'separate' yourself Being aware of the issues you
- As health professionals will be engaging in likely to be a need for increased access to some management or 'holding', there is

Duty of Care and Supervision:

- Knowing how, where and when to refer elsewhere (i.e. knowing what to do when a woman who initially presented with only moderate/severe symptoms and/or other now appears to be experiencing mild depressive and anxiety symptoms

Duty of Care and Supervision:

Duty of Care and Supervision:

Knowing how, where and when to refer

elsewhere when the scope of the clients'

set of each health professional and the will once again vary depending on the skil issues is outside of one's skill range - this

- Knowing how and where to refer knowing what other referral pathways engaged in treatment with you – has deteriorated even if she is already what to do if a woman's mental health and associated issues) – e.g. knowing and severity of the diagnosed disorder each health professional and the nature issues are outside of one's skill range (this will vary depending on skill set of elsewhere when the scope of the clients
- Health professionals who are actively require increased support for issues treatment process will once again involved in the management and may be appropriate and necessary to
- to appropriate supervision e.g. access pertaining to the management of mental health issues, and ought to have access

- Health professionals treating severe and increased access to ongoing and specialised supervision. It is critical that and/or her baby? complex mental health issues will require

now reporting increased suicidal ideation low risk of harming herself or others is

with severe depression and anxiety but when a woman who initially presented may be present. – e.g. what do you do treated and other complicating factors that nature and severity of the disorder being

and/or has attempted to harm herself

- circumstances and issues relating to increased risk of working with escalating always accessible - is there is an some form of appropriate supervision is
- specialised treatments, e.g. parent-infant specialist therapies, information and skills It is also essential that when learning peer supervision is encouraged whenever through regular supervision. Continued related to these, are initially consolidated specialist treatments are being

and anxiety and associated challenges issues of mild or moderate depression discuss treatment and management allows the health professionals to to individual or peer supervision that

- Workshops/Multi-Disciplinary Group implemented, regardless of experience
- Work Manualised Treatments for Face-to-Face
- Self-Help Books
- Online Treatments

* Also- Other methods as required

How to deliver*

Websites DVDs

Cross Agency Delivery/ Local Network

Case Presentations

Curriculum (under development)

Accreditation Face to Face

Accreditation Face to Face Online

Specialised Training Packages

Specialised Training Packages

Conferences/Seminars COPE Resources/Fact Sheets **Education Seminars** Online Learning Platforms Broad/Specific Campaigns