

Economic evaluation of the midwifery initiated oral health-dental service programme in Australia

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Abstract (600 word limit)

Oral health is an integral part of antenatal care with a dental check-up being recommended early in pregnancy. Poor oral health is aggravated during pregnancy by hormonal changes, vomiting, heartburn and nausea raising the risk of women suffering from the common conditions of dental decay, gum disease and dental erosion. Promoting oral health and providing dental care can improve oral hygiene, help prevent dental disease and delay the risk of mothers transmitting decay-causing bacteria to their children, a known cause of early-childhood caries. Furthermore, raising oral health awareness during pregnancy can foster good preventive oral hygiene practices and dietary behaviours in children particularly around the consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages which is a key risk factor for early-childhood caries. Despite its importance, in an Australian context less than half of the pregnant women seek dental care, largely due to cost barriers. Oral health issues are often compounded in low socioeconomic households by the costs associated with seeking dental treatment in Australia's user payer dental system and low rates of extras cover for dental treatment through private health insurance. Poor dental attendance, and resulting poor oral health, are closely associated with income, with only 22% of low-income households having a favourable dental visiting pattern to dentists compared with 56% of higher-income households. Dental care in Australia is provided predominantly by private dental providers to individuals with or without private health insurance with dental cover. Publicly-funded oral and dental health services operated by the

states and territories offer free or subsidised services but these vary across jurisdictions.

Keywords

Urban drainage; dental care; oral health.

Importance of Research (200 Words)

All accepted papers for the 13th ICUD, for both oral and poster presentations will be distributed to the participants during the conference. Selected papers will be peer reviewed for publication in IWA Publishing's journals: Water Science and Technology; Water Science and Technology; Water Supply; or Water Practice and Technology. There is also a possibility to publish in the Urban Water Journal for selected papers. These instructions have been prepared in the format that should be used for the final manuscripts and are designed to help you, the author, provide manuscripts that will translate well into a standard format. The instructions are partly based on similar instructions issued by the 12th ICUD (Nascimento et al., 2011), 11th ICUD (Arthur et al., 2008), 10th ICUD (Mikkelsen et al., 2005), International Water Association (IWA, 2002) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (Dickerts and McNaughton, 2000). There is also a possibility to publish in the Urban Water Journal for selected papers.

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Biography (200 words)

Deanna Mulvihill has her expertise in evaluation and passion in improving the health and wellbeing. Her open and contextual evaluation model based on responsive constructivists creates new pathways for improving healthcare. She has built this model after years of experience in research, evaluation, teaching and administration both in hospital and education institutions. The foundation is based on fourth generation evaluation (Guba& Lincoln, 1989) which is a methodology that utilizes the previous generations of evaluation: measurement, description and judgment. It allows for value-pluralism. This approach is responsive to all stakeholders and has a different way of focusing.

Information of Institution and Laboratory (200 words)

Western Sydney University, formerly the University of Western Sydney, is an Australian multi-campus university in the Greater Western region of Sydney, Australia. The university in its current form was founded in 1989 as a federated network university with an amalgamation between the Nepean College of Advanced Education and the Hawkesbury Agricultural College.[1] The Macarthur Institute of Higher Education was incorporated in the university in 1989. In 2001, the University of Western Sydney was restructured as a single multi campus university rather than as a federation. In 2015, the university underwent a rebranding which resulted in a change in name from the University of Western Sydney to Western Sydney University. It is

a provider of undergraduate, postgraduate, and higher research degrees with campuses in Bankstown, Blacktown, Campbelltown, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Parramatta, and Penrith.



Reference (15-20)

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