

# Networknews

A Newsletter from the Australian Women's Health Network



**DECEMBER/JANUARY EDITION 2008/09**  
**AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S HEALTH NETWORK**  
Online Women's Health Newsletter 2008/09  
**[www.awhn.org.au](http://www.awhn.org.au)**

Dear Members

The AWHN Network News will be sent to all members three times a year (April, August and December/January). AWHN values your input and invites submissions for consideration. Contact details for submissions are provided at the conclusion of this newsletter.

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# TAKING ACTION TO PROGRESS THE NEW AGENDA

## CONVENOR'S REPORT

It was with joy that we received the formal announcement of the new National Women's Health Policy by Ministers Roxon and Plibersek on 16 December. The policy will be developed in 2009 and its purpose is to ensure "that the planning and delivery of health services better meet the needs of Australian women". Emphasis is to be placed upon prevention, health inequalities in Australian society and the social determinants of these inequalities, one of which, of course, is gender. It will focus on the needs of particular groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, women in remote and rural communities, women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and women from disadvantaged backgrounds. The policy will be developed through a series of consultations with health service users, providers and State and Territory governments, beginning with a round table early in 2009. We will keep you posted on the details.

The consultations will be a great opportunity for Australian women to tell the Commonwealth what we want health policy to look like. My understanding is that there will be opportunities for women to make online contributions. I encourage you to participate in these processes and to distribute information as widely as possible through your networks.

A background paper, *Developing a Women's Health Policy for Australia-Setting the Scene*, can be downloaded from [www.health.gov.au/womenshealthpolicy](http://www.health.gov.au/womenshealthpolicy)

At the same time, planning has begun to arrange a meeting of our Aboriginal Women's Talking Circle early in 2009. The topics of discussion will include, first, priorities for the new national policy and, second, aims and priorities for the Sixth National Women's Health Conference to be held in 2010.

Best wishes for a great 2009.  
Gwen Gray.

# 6<sup>TH</sup> Australian Women's Health Conference Progress Report

## *Women's Health: The New National Agenda Conference*



**6TH AUSTRALIAN  
WOMEN'S  
HEALTH  
CONFERENCE**  
THE NEW NATIONAL AGENDA  
18-21 MAY 2010. HOBART, TASMANIA

### CONFERENCE EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT

On behalf of the Australian Women's Health Network we are delighted to announce the 6<sup>th</sup> Australian Women's Health Conference ~ *The New National Agenda* will be held in Tasmania, Australia, 18 – 21 May 2010.

### CONFERENCE INFORMATION

#### Conference Priority Areas

1. Women's Economic Health and Wellbeing
2. Women's Mental Health and Wellbeing
3. Preventing Violence Against Women
4. Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health
5. Improving Women's Access to Publicly Funded and Financially Accessible Health Services.

#### Key Dates

- Call for Papers Distribution 1 December 2008
- Call for Papers Deadline 1 June 2009
- Acceptance to presenters 1 August 2009
- Registration released 1 March 2009
- Early Bird registration closes 1 November 2009

#### Registration Fees

Full Registration - Member	Early Bird	\$775.00
Full Registration - Non Member	Early Bird	\$825.00
Full Registration - Member	Standard	\$875.00
Full Registration - Non Member	Standard	\$925.00
Student / Concession	Standard	\$395.00
Day Registration Member	Early Bird	\$330.00
Day Registration Non Member	Early Bird	\$355.00
Day Registration Member	Standard	\$390.00
Day Registration Non Member	Standard	\$405.00
Day Registration Student	Early Bird	\$145.00
Day Registration Student	Standard	\$195.00

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST ON LINE  
NOW AT  
[www.awhn.org.au](http://www.awhn.org.au)**

## ARTICLES AND WEB LINKS OF INTEREST

### Women with Disabilities

The **Women With Disabilities Australia (WWDA) Update Report September-December 2008** is now available. It can be accessed via the WWDA website in HTML, Word and PDF versions. Go to: <http://www.wwda.org.au/bulletin.htm>

Alternatively, if you would like a copy emailed to you directly, please contact WWDA at [wwda@wwda.org.au](mailto:wwda@wwda.org.au) The Word version of the Update Report is 868 KB in size, and the PDF version is 1MB.

## STATE ROUND UP

### Queensland

#### QUEENSLAND REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - December 2008

##### Brisbane International Feminist Conference

Held at the Greek Convention Centre from 3-5 September, the Brisbane International Feminist Conference was an excellent, well organised and well attended event with a great atmosphere, enhancing displays, and challenging and inspiring discussions and debates.

The program was tightly packed over the three days with various vital topics explored including: Australian Indigenous Women; Feminism; Women & Justice; Women in Poverty; Family Law; Sexualisation of Women; Women in Work; Sexuality; Violence Against Women; and Women and Art. There were more than forty Australian and international speakers (two via live link-up) including Prof. Judy Atkinson, Merci Angeles, Kim Pate, Susan Hawthorne, Olivera Simic, and Debbie Kilroy, founder of Sisters Inside, who was also the guest speaker at the Queensland Women's Health Network Inc AGM held in conjunction with the Conference on Wednesday evening. The final afternoon, which focused on

Women's Health, began with a presentation by Dr Gwen Gray, Convenor of AWHN, entitled: 'The Australian Women's Health Movement: Institutionalised and Surviving'. Gwen was sponsored by the Women's Health Services Network (Qld). Other health topics included: 'Abortion Rights: Activating the pro-choice majority' by Kathy Newnam; 'Feminist principles for support work in action: Working creatively and compassionately with Women with Eating Issues who self-harm, towards individual and social change' by Amanda Dearden; 'Sustainability, Intentional Living and Prevention of Violence Against Women' by Tamara Lee; and 'Health and healthcare for women affected by domestic violence: Stories of disruption, fragmentation and re-construction' by Marion Tower.

### **Abortion in Queensland**

On 17 October the *Abortion in Queensland* Conference was held at University of Queensland. The event was a joint initiative of Children by Choice, Family Planning Queensland, Dr Caroline de Costa of James Cook University Dept of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and Dr Darren Russell of Sexual Health Service in Cairns. *Abortion in Queensland* was opened by Karen Struthers MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health, and Bonny Barry MP. A range of international, interstate and Queensland speakers addressed issues of the history of abortion law and practice in New Zealand, women's experience of abortion; public provision of abortion services in Victoria and the recent legal changes in that state; current legal position of surgical and medical abortion in Queensland and current provision of abortion in Queensland and access for women, including public hospital provision. The last session of the day was a plenary discussion where six recommendations were unanimously agreed upon by participants:

1. Abortion must be removed from the Queensland Criminal Code, and remain subject to appropriate health regulations.
2. Medical workforce training and succession planning in the area of abortion services and contraception needs to be addressed by teaching institutions, professional medical and nursing bodies, private sectors and State health department.
3. Queensland public health services must take responsibility for ensuring all women in their region have access to abortion services, in particular women in rural, regional and remote areas and women experiencing financial difficulties.
4. Abortion services should conform to international best practice guidelines which includes the availability of medical abortion with mifepristone and prostaglandin for termination of pregnancy.
5. A broad Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy must be a priority of the State and federal Governments. The Strategy must have a multi-

layered approach which includes comprehensive access to education, services and information.

6. Government must fund only pregnancy advisory services that are transparent, women centred, non-directive and provide referrals for all options. Counselling should be optional.

The *Abortion in Queensland* organising committee will be presenting these recommendations to the Premier, Minister for Health, Attorney General and other relevant health and medical bodies. A report detailing the content and recommendations of the day will be produced.

For more information contact Cait Calcutt [coord@childrenbychoice.org.au](mailto:coord@childrenbychoice.org.au) or (07) 3357 9933.

### **'The Health of Queenslanders 2008: Prevention of Chronic Disease' Report**

Queensland's Chief Health Officer, Dr Jeannette Young, recently provided this second instalment in *The Health of Queenslanders* series of two-yearly reports, to inform the community about their health. The comprehensive 146-page report identifies chronic disease as a significant and increasingly serious issue for the population. According to the report chronic diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, anxiety and depression, and respiratory conditions are presenting a significant challenge to health systems in Queensland, and also throughout Australia, and internationally.

Some gains have been made in Queensland recently, such as a slowing in the accelerating rate of obesity in children, and a substantial decrease in smoking rates. However the report also identifies that "[c]hronic diseases caused 88.2% of the health problems and early deaths in Queensland in 2006. The total impact of disease in Queensland, premature death and ill health, is projected to increase by 22% in the next decade." (p1) Factors such as the increasing population, the ageing of the population, lifestyle factors (nutrition, exercise, smoking, alcohol), and improvements in treatment leading to fewer deaths, are contributing to the problem.

While chronic disease is reported to affect both women and men almost equally, significant disparities are identified between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, and between high and low socio-economic groups.

Prevention is seen to be the major key to reversing the current trends, with the three most urgent targets being the reduction of obesity, smoking and alcohol use.

Some important statistics from the Report include:

- Coronary heart disease death rates are 11% higher and stroke is 8% higher than national rates
- 482,000 Queenslanders (about one in eight) report a long term mental and behavioural problem - 18% higher than the average for Australia

- One in seven adults (15%) report high levels of psychological distress - 9% higher than the Australian average
- Queensland smoking rates declined by 13% between 2004 and 2007... [however] rates are still 4% higher than Australian rates
- 56.8% of adults are overweight or obese - 62.7% for males and 50.6% for females - 0.6 million are obese and another 1.6 million are overweight. The obesity rate is double for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults.
- Cost of healthy food remains much higher in very remote areas (24.2% higher) and 32.6% higher in towns more than 2000 kilometres from Brisbane
- 57.9% of women aged 50-69 years are screened by BreastScreen Queensland and 57.9% of women aged 20-69 years have a regular Pap smear. (pV)

The full report is available in PDF at <http://www.health.qld.gov.au>

**Maree Hawken**

**Coordinator - Queensland Women's Health Network Inc  
AWHN Queensland Representative**

## South Australia

### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA - STATE REPORT**

#### **Women's Health Action Plan Report Card**

A report card on the first South Australian Women's Health Action Plan is due for release in early 2009. The Action Plan identified 12 key initiatives that include the development of a gender analysis tool, increasing Aboriginal women's employment and participation within the health system, strengthening maternal health programs in SA and developing a range of models in response to women subjected to sexual assault, domestic violence or who experience mental health and/or drug and alcohol issues following being subjected to violence.

Work is also currently occurring to develop a second Women's Health Action Plan; this will include a continuation of some of the existing strategies and the identification of new ones.

For more information contact Cate Mettam at Women's Health Statewide on 8239 9600.

#### **News from the Women's Health Centres**

Adelaide's women's health centres: Dale Street, Northern Women's, Northern Violence Intervention Program, Southern Women's and Women's Health Statewide met in late October for a planning session ably facilitated by Miranda Roe. While the services have a long history of working together, the planning session provided an opportunity to rethink our purpose as a shared group. Within this we identified a twin focus of research and advocacy and women's health services coordination.

We look forward to reporting in future issues of the AWHN newsletter where this approach takes us.

### **South Australia Rape and Sexual Assault Laws**

*The Criminal Law Consolidation (Rape and Sexual Offences) Amendment Bill 2008* and the *Statutes Amendment (Evidence and Procedure) Bill 2007* were passed on 9 April 2008 following a comprehensive consultation process. These laws came into force on 23 November 2008.

These Bills provide a clearer definition of sexual offences, including:

- rape;
- persistent sexual abuse of a child; and
- consent.

The new laws also ensure that the criminal justice system is more sensitive to the needs of victims of rape and sexual assault.

Cases involving sexual offences against children will be given priority unless there are exceptional circumstances and victims of rape and sexual assault will be protected from cross-examination by the accused in person.

Doctors from the Pregnancy Advisory Centre have approval to provide Mifepristone to women for early medical abortion and also to use it also at later gestations to enhance the safety and reduce the discomfort of these procedures. This marks a very significant improvement in access to best practice in abortion care for South Australian women. For more information contact Brigid Coombe on (08) 8243 3999 or [brigid.coombe@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:brigid.coombe@health.sa.gov.au) .



## **2008 - A BIG YEAR FOR WOMEN AND SOCIAL REFORM IN VICTORIA**

Abortion Law Reform and Assisted Reproductive Treatment Reform were achieved this year. Both bills were the subject of a conscience vote. Many women in Victoria spent time in the public gallery witnessing what was often heated debate. John Brumby, the Victorian premier expressed his pride in how MPs conducted themselves. "People would have very different and divergent views, strongly held views. And I certainly urged caucus members and Members of Parliament to respect those divergent views and we did," he said. "I think we had some of the best debate we've had all year, in relation to the abortion law reform, and ART (Assisted Reproductive Treatment)."

2008 was also the centenary of white women's suffrage in Victoria, as it had been the last State to enact the franchise legislation.

### **Abortion Law Reform**

The Victorian Abortion Law Reform Act 2008 came into existence 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008.

Victorian women's health services played a major role in the intensive activity throughout September and October on the Abortion Law Reform Bill and the final stages of this 4 year campaign. This included weekly women's health services group meeting and providing information and resources to assist in lobbying of MPs within all electorates and management of media. Legislative Assembly (Lower House) members voted 48 to 28 in support of an unamended Bill on 11<sup>th</sup> September. In the lead up to the Legislative Council (Upper House) debate and vote, On 10<sup>th</sup> October, after marathon sittings the Legislative Council voted 23 to 17 in support of the Bill unamended. Women's health services have continued to receive very positive feedback from MPs across the political parties, women's networks and the broader community.

A significant amount of information on this (including the new Act) can be found on [www//whv.org.au](http://www//whv.org.au)

### **Assisted Reproductive Treatment Reform**

The Assisted Reproductive Treatment Bill 2008 was passed by both the Upper and Lower Houses of the Victorian Parliament late in the night 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008. Significantly the bill reduces legal discrimination against women seeking IVF and their children as it extends legal protection to kids born to same sex couples by giving legal recognition to their parents.

The record of discussion in the Legislative Council (Upper House) is available at <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/downloadhansard/council.htm>

The record of discussion of the amendments to the Bill in the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) is available at

<http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/downloadhansard/assembly.htm>

The Bill can be viewed at [www.legislation.vic.gov.au](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au)

The Assisted Reproductive Treatment Bill passed 20 to 18 but with amendments, meaning it must return to the Lower House for final approval next year. The Government has indicated that it intends to proclaim the ART Act by 1 July 2009, pending satisfactory resolution of any implementation requirements.

### **Women's Health and Local Government Capacity Building Project**

Developed by Victorian women's health services and launched in 2006 in the lead up to the Victorian State election the 10 Point Plan for Women's Health in Victoria 2006-2010 outlines a vision for women's health over the next 5 years. It recognises the impact of gender in health and health inequalities and seeks to address these.

In December this year, for the first time all local governments went to the polls simultaneously. This was identified as an opportunity for Victorian women's health services to work together to 'mainstream' women's health at the local council level by bringing women's health issues to the attention of all local election candidates and to follow up post election on commitments given. This work built on the success of the 10 Point Plan process

A communication was sent from regional women's health services to all candidates in local council elections within their region which provided information and asked specifics of each local govt candidate:

- what the women's health service wants the candidate to do for us in Council
- sought commitment from the candidate to a briefing by the local women's health service and to coming to gender and diversity training once elected
- provided a copy of the 10 Point Plan for Women's Health in Victoria.

In the first quarter of 2009 a series of women's health capacity building workshops will be run in conjunction with the Local Government association of Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria.

## **STATE REPORT**

Dot has been busy with the Aboriginal Women's Forums and will provide an update in the next state report. I have been on leave from work for the past four months (full time student) and have only recently returned. The information provided for this section has therefore been kindly provided by the Department of Health/King Edward Memorial Hospital (Jocelyn Hansen).

### **The National Plan of action is Australia's Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children**

The plan has been developed by a council of 11 members from across Australia selected for their expert knowledge to lead and develop the plan and guide its implementation.

The Council has used an iterative process of validation of emerging trends to build on evidence and first hand experiences from women, men, policy makers, service providers and communities.

Dorinda Cox our Aboriginal Healing Project Manager as council member has held extensive interviews and community meetings in Western Australia.

Her involvement with Council also includes analysis of public submissions, round table meetings and briefing sessions to Ministers and Government at National level.

The plan will be released early in 2009.

For further information contact Dorinda Cox Manager Aboriginal Healing Project (08) 9340 2825.

### **"Female Genital Mutilation Program"**

The FGM Taskforce was established in 2008. The aim of the Taskforce is to provide expert advice on training and curricula information for nurses, midwives, doctors, school students, bi-cultural health workers and community workers. This is to ensure that FGM is a stable and consistent part of training and professional development.

The Taskforce has developed a workplan for the first half of 2009. If you would like further information on this or any other aspect of FGM, please contact Martha Teshome, Project Officer on 9340 2823.

## **State wide Obstetric Services Unit**

SOSU has

- developed a website  
<http://kemh.health.wa.gov.au/services/SOSU/index.php>
- Is developing a data base of midwives and doctors that provide obstetric services throughout WA
- SOSU has completed a MANS MAP document that gives an overview of the needs and issues of each of the 30 units that provide maternity services in WA.

## **Psychological Medicine Clinical Care Unit**

The Psychological Medicine Clinical Care Unit underwent an In Depth Mental Health Review by ACHS on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

Three surveyors from ACHS, including one consumer surveyor evaluated seven of the eight programs across Princess Margaret Hospital and King Edward Memorial Hospital. These included:

- Acute Services Ward 4H
- Acute Community Integration Team
- Paediatric Consultation Services
- Eating Disorder Program
- Family Pathways
- Psychological Medicine King Edward Memorial Hospital
- Mother and Baby Unit
- Western Australia Perinatal Mental Health Unit
- Sexual Assault Resource Centre (visited, not surveyed)

The surveyors underestimated the size of the service and felt they would have liked more time to spend at each of the programs. They were impressed by the rapid expansion of service in a reasonably short period of time and were impressed with the amount of work put in by all the staff to integrate the programs and manage to provide a service for almost double the amount of patients.

They commented on the staff awareness of security issues and reporting, good integrated risk management process. They gave special recognition to all the staff for preparation for the survey visit and a positive workforce culture.

All the staff were praised for their approach to their work and it was noted that staff in particular areas had to deal with a difficult work environment with a lack of space and resources.

Overall the surveyors concluded that Psychological Medicine Clinical Care Unit met all the criteria at a (MA) Moderate Achievement rating with no high priority.

**Vicki Lambert**  
**WA Representative**

## TASMANIA

### STATE REPORT

#### *Women's Health: The New National Agenda Conference*

Planning for the 2010 Conference, *Women's Health ~ the New National Agenda* is well underway and the Conference will officially be launched at International Women's Day events around the country next year. Criteria for the selection of abstracts are now available for download from the AWHN website and we are open for submissions. The Conference's Arts and Cultural program is gaining great support and is shaping up to include a strong contingent of Tasmanian Aboriginal women artists.

Key Conference dates for your diaries:

- Registration opens: 8 March 2009
- Early Bird Registration deadline: 1 November 2009
- Abstract submission close: 1 June 2009
- Draft paper submission: 1 March 2010
- Conference runs: 18 - 21 May 2010

#### *Tasmanian Review of the Sex Industry Offences Act 2005*

A submission was made in response to the review currently underway of the *Tasmanian Sex Industry Offences Act 2005* on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services, Tasmania recently.

The Terms of Reference of the *Review* asked respondents to address the question:

*Has the Act safeguarded the health of sex workers and the public?*

Other questions posed by the Review were:

*Has the Act restricted/prevented the operation of commercial sexual services businesses?*

*Has the Act protected children from exploitation in the sex industry?*

*Has the Act protected sex workers from exploitation in the sex industry?*

The *Sex Industry Offences Act 2005* commenced on 1 January 2006 and under this legislation:

- brothels (and brothel-based work), as well as street based sex work, became illegal in Tasmania
- private work, as long as no more than two sex workers worked together and neither managed or employed the other, was declared legal
- police powers were expanded to enable them to enter premises, arrest a person, and demand personal identification details without a warrant
- specific provisions were made relating to the use of prophylactics (condoms and dams) to minimise the risk of transmission of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Drafting of the legislation followed various unsuccessful attempts by the Tasmanian Labor Government of the time to decriminalise the sex industry. These attempts were opposed by members of the Legislative Council, who were lobbied strongly by various community groups including the Australian Christian Lobby, a group that claims that the resultant legislation was 'the positive outcome of our campaign to stop the legalisation of brothels.' The about face on the government's original intention to legalise brothels was based on the belief that, in the absence of the ability to regulate the industry to protect workers and the community, complete prohibition was necessary.

In our submission, we made the following recommendations:

*The health of sex workers and the public is best promoted by legislation which:*

- *is based on a human rights framework which reduces social stigma, exploitation and violence and aims to develop a healthy and safe environment which affirms the rights of sex workers and balances the rights of the public*
- *decriminalises sex work*
- *regulates occupational health and safety issues by the use of standards similar to those used in New Zealand and Western Australia.*

*The health of sex workers and the public would also be promoted by inclusion of sex work in a comprehensive Sexual Health Promotion Strategy which:*

- *includes a peer based approach to providing health and safety information and other support to sex workers*
- *encourages sex workers to use health services*
- *promotes health and safety strategies, including the availability of condoms and lubricant for sex workers and their clients.*

The Tasmanian branch of Scarlett Alliance, the Australian Sex Workers Association, also made a submission.

**Good Medical Practice: Code of Professional Conduct Submission**

A submission was made to Medical Boards of the Australian States and Territories in support of the development of a national Professional Code of Conduct and commenting on the Draft Code set out in their consultation paper.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy for NorthWest Tasmania**

A Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy is currently under development by the Women's Health Program for the NorthWest region of Tasmania.

**Social Inclusion Strategy**

Work on a Social Inclusion Strategy for Tasmania is currently underway following the establishment of a Social Inclusion Unit within the Department of Premier and Cabinet. We are contributing to the formulation of recommendations from the broader Population Health Unit.

## New South Wales

### STATE REPORT

**Women's Health Matters: NSW Women's Health Implementation Plan 2009 - 2012**

NSW Health has released a draft policy Women's Health Matters: The NSW Women's Health Implementation Plan 2009 - 2012. Consultation on the policy closes 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009. It aims to link the NSW Women's Health Policy context with the NSW State Plan.

The draft policy has been disappointing to the NSW Women's Health Sector, government and non government, particularly as the forth component of the NSW Health Policy, Strategic Framework to Advance the Health of Women; *Incorporating a Gendered Approach to Health* has not been included. The sector is also sad to see women's health examples expressed in biomedical terms with very little reference to social determinants and identified women's health priorities such as violence against women. The award winning work of the women's health centres is not referred to at all.

## **NSW State Budget - Cuts to NSW Health NGO Grants Programs.**

The NSW Mini State Budget included cuts of \$5 m to the NSW Health NGO Grants Programs - this includes NGO Women's Health Centres, Drug and Alcohol, Mental Health, ACON, FPA, Aboriginal Health Services - to name but a few. Health Peaks and NCOSS have recently met with NSW Health, Deputy Director General Strategic Development to discuss the way forward. NCOSS opened the meeting with our position - while we are at the meeting in good faith we do not believe there should be any cuts. The meeting has been deferred until February 2009.

## **Office for Women's Policy**

The NSW OFW has changed its name to the Office for Women's Policy and embraced two main priorities - Policy matters and Violence Against Women.

**NSW Domestic and Family Violence Strategic Framework Discussion Paper** has been released. Consultation on the policy closes on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2009. Copies are available on the Office for Women's Policy website:  
<http://www.women.nsw.gov.au/>

In the meantime:

- The Older Women's Network has begun work on Violence Against Older Women (VAOW) Strategy. [www.own.org.au](http://www.own.org.au).
- The NSW FGM Program has instigated action for the implementation of state wide guidelines for responding to FGM. This particularly aims to provide best practice care for women regardless of location.

***AWHN Bulletin*** is an online news digest from the Australian Women's Health Network, offering a combination of reporting on women's health topics and links to news stories and commentaries on issues in women's health. The bulletin is designed as a resource for an audience of policy makers, journalists, researchers, practitioners, and advocates. The bulletin aims to provide information and news on women's health issues. Contributions may be sent to Vicki Lambert at [roates9@bigpond.com](mailto:roates9@bigpond.com) All contributions are subject to editorial license to ensure that the AWHN'S principles are upheld through this bulletin.





# Australian Women's Health Network Membership Form

ABN 84 238 300 000

## TAX INVOICE

Please use this as your tax invoice as organisations will not be separately invoiced.  
The information you provide us with will only be used for AWHN business.  
Your contact details will not be sold or distributed to other organisations.

**The following items are compulsory.**  
Email is the major form of communication with AWHN members.

Is this a membership renewal?

Or a new membership?

Individual Members	
Name	
Address	
Telephone	( )
Fax	( )
Email	

Organisation Members	
Organisation	
Contact Name	
Address	
Telephone	( )
Fax	( )
Email	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Payment details (membership includes GST)		Amount
Individual	\$33	\$
Student/Concession	\$11	\$
Organisation	\$77	\$
Total enclosed		\$

Please note: Membership is for one year and is due on 1<sup>st</sup> July

Optional:  Tick if you are an Aboriginal woman and would like to belong to the AWHN Aboriginal Women's Caucus.

More information is available at: [www.awhn.org.au](http://www.awhn.org.au) or email us at [awhn@awhn.org.au](mailto:awhn@awhn.org.au)

Send a money order or cheque  
with this form to:  
Australian Women's Health Network  
GPO Box 1160  
Melbourne VIC 3001

Internet banking option:  
(please email a copy of receipt)  
Westpac BSB: 032-727  
Account Number: 112835  
Account Name: Australian Women's Health Network

6th National Australian Women's Health Conference  
Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart, Tasmania  
18-21 May, 2010