The Australasian Marcé Society

2013 Conference

Perinatal mental health: from conception to kindergarten. Connecting research to clinical practice

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
Hilton on the Park Hotel

11-12 October, 2013
(with optional workshops on 10 October)

ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
Deadline for Abstracts: Friday 31 May, 2013

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:

- BeyondBlue
- St John of God

Follow the conference on Facebook: Australasian Marce Conference 2013
We are delighted to invite you to the 2013 Conference of the Australasian Marcé Society, to be held in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, in October 2013.

The Society is dedicated to the understanding of mental health and illness in relation to childbearing, and our membership includes all professional disciplines with an interest in this field while also encouraging a strong consumer involvement. The Melbourne meeting will offer quality scientific content and lively interaction in iconic Melbourne settings.

There is now significant interest in the mental health of women and their families. It is recognised that this has implications for a healthy start to life with the potential for a longer term impact from pregnancy and the early postpartum on later health and wellbeing. The conference themes will therefore cover the broad yet important period from conception until kindergarten to acknowledge the inter-relationship between maternal and infant mental health and wellbeing.

The clinical and research themes will include mental health in pregnancy, postpartum and early childhood. Internationally renowned speakers will address the issues of maternal mental health and treatment in pregnancy and its impact on child development, the inter-play of early infancy care practices and maternal mental health, cultural aspects of perinatal and infant health, paternal perinatal mental health, the prevention of perinatal mental health disorders as well as management of depression and other mental illnesses across the perinatal period, and many other topics.

We look forward to welcoming you to the 2013 Conference.

Megan Galbally
President, Australasian Marcé Society, and Conference Co-Convenor

Gaynor Blankley
Conference Co-Convenor

CONVENORS:
- Dr Gaynor Blankley
  Consultant Psychiatrist,
  Perinatal Mental Health,
  Mercy Hospital for Women
- Dr Megan Galbally
  Head of Unit, Consultant Psychiatrist,
  Perinatal Mental Health,
  Mercy Hospital for Women

ORGANISING COMMITTEE:
- Professor Anne Buist
  Professor of Women’s Mental Health, University of Melbourne,
  Austin Health and Northpark Private Hospital, Melbourne
- Athina Georgiou
  Chief Executive Officer, Queen Elizabeth Centre
- Dr Nicole Hight
  National Perinatal Advisor, beyondblue
- Belinda Horton
  Chief Executive Officer, PANDA
- Dr Sam Margis
  Consultant Perinatal Psychiatrist, NEST family wellness clinic & Masada Private Hospital
- Dr Kristine Mercuri
  Consultant Perinatal Psychiatrist, Centre for Women’s Mental Health, Royal Women’s Hospital, Parkville Victoria
- Professor Jeanette Milgrom
  Professor Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences, University of Melbourne; Director, Parent-Infant Research Institute, Austin Health, Melbourne
- Barbara Minto
  Nurse Unit Manager, Perinatal and Infant Inpatient Unit,
  Early in Life Mental Health Service (ELMHS), Mental Health Program, Southern Health
- Lisa Oro
  Acting Manager, Maternity and Newborn Clinical Network
- Deborah Pidd
  Midwife/Nurse Unit Manager, Outpatients Department,
  Mercy Hospital for Women
- Carol Purcell
  National Program Manager – Perinatal Depression Initiative, beyondblue
- Dr Martien Snellen
  Perinatal Psychiatrist, Mercy Hospital for Women
- Dr Adaobi Udechuku
  Co-Clinical Director, Consultant Psychiatrist,
  Raphael Centre Berwick, St John of God Health Care

WHO SHOULD ATTEND
Nurses, psychologists, psychiatrists, paediatricians,
obstetricians, GP’s, social workers, child care workers,
policy developers, midwives, physiotherapists, and
early childhood nurses.

PROGRAM FORMAT
The first day of the Conference will be devoted to
optional half-day workshops presented by Professors
Condon, Fisher, Oberlander and Teti; keynote and
invited addresses, paper sessions, symposia, posters
and mini-workshops will fill the remaining 2 days.

REGISTRATION FEES
It is anticipated that the conference registration fee
will be approximately:
- $410 (Marcé members)
- $465 (non-members)
- $320 (consumers and carers).
The fee for the optional pre-conference workshops will be approximately $115 per workshop. Professionals
who are not funded to attend may be able to claim all
conference expenses as a tax deduction.

CONFERENCE VENUE
Hilton on the Park Hotel
192 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne
Located in elegant East Melbourne, the Hilton on
the Park Hotel has one of the most unique positions
in Melbourne. Situated next to the beautiful Fitzroy
Gardens and directly opposite the Melbourne Cricket
Ground, Rod Laver Arena and Melbourne Park, it
is only a 10 minute walk from the city’s downtown
shopping and commercial district.

SOCIAL PROGRAM
A Soirée on Friday 11 October will be held in the Grand
Ballroom of the Hotel Windsor, a short walk from the
Hilton. The Hotel Windsor was the dream of shipping
magnate George Nipper. He commissioned eminent
architect Charles Webb to design the hotel and the
original hotel opened its doors in December 1883. The
Hotel Windsor is Australia’s oldest and most cherished
Grand Hotel pre-dating London’s Ritz and Savoy and
The Plaza New York. Celebrating its 130th anniversary
in 2013, it combines the elegance of 19th century
Victorian charm with the latest in modern luxuries
and services.

BREAKFASTS
AstraZeneca will sponsor a breakfast for health care
professionals on the Friday morning; PANDA (Post
and Antenatal Depression Association) and the Gidget
Foundation will host a breakfast for consumers and
open to all conference delegates on the Saturday.

ACCOMMODATION
When registration opens, delegates needing
accommodation will have the option of booking a room
through one of our blocks. The rate per room per night
will be:
- Hilton on the Park
  $255
- Mantra on Jolimont
  $149 (studio apartment, government rate)
- $179 (studio apartment, non-government rate)
- $209 (one bedroom apartment)
Jane Fisher

Jane Fisher is Professor of Women’s Health and the Director of the Jean Hailes Research Unit in the School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at Monash University. She is an academic Clinical and Health Psychologist with longstanding interests in public health perspectives on the links between women’s reproductive health and mental health from adolescence to mid-life, in particular related to fertility, conception, pregnancy, birth, and the postpartum period. She is particularly interested in building evidence about the social determinants of mental health including in low and lower-middle income countries. Jane has completed major epidemiological studies in clinical and community settings in Australia and Vietnam and nationally-funded intervention trials. She has also supervised more than 30 research higher degree and postgraduate coursework projects to completion. Jane is an expert technical advisor to international agencies including the World Health Organization and the United Nations Population Fund.

Sue Kruske

Professor Sue Kruske is a midwife and child health nurse with clinical, teaching and research experience in maternal, child and cross-cultural health particularly with remote Indigenous communities in Australia. Currently she is Director at the Queensland Centre for Mothers and Babies. She has many years’ experience working in the remote Indigenous communities and her primary areas of interest and research are in collaboration, supporting the health workforce in working more effectively with women and cross cultural child rearing practices.

Tim Oberlander

Professor Tim Oberlander is a clinician-scientist whose work “bridges” developmental neurosciences and community child health research. As a developmental pediatrician he treats children with chronic/complex pain disorders, and behavior and learning disturbances associated with prenatal drug and alcohol exposure. Dr. Oberlander’s research seeks to understand the early origins of child behaviour using a broad appreciation that genetic and epigenetic factors influence a susceptibility to everyday social environmental influences. A specific focus of his work are studies examining how mothers’ mood during pregnancy and prenatal exposure to antidepressants shape early stress regulation and related neurobehavioral outcomes during childhood. Of particular interest is how these exposures change the neurotransmitter serotonin during fetal development and influence the development of that shape ways children cope with social challenges, pain, arousal and attention – all key elements that influence mental health across the life span. His work incorporates multidisciplinary studies extending from molecular/genetic to population epidemiology that characterize the neurodevelopmental pathways that reflect risk, resiliency and developmental plasticity. To this end, he has published pioneering studies on neurobehavioral outcomes in young children of depressed mothers who were treated with serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SRI) antidepressants during pregnancy. Outcome measures of interest have included attention, mood, pain reactivity and executive functions in later childhood.
FIRST & FINAL CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Closing date for receipt of Abstracts:
Friday, 31 May 2013

Proposals are invited for the following:
• Papers (30 minutes including 10 minutes for questions/discussion)
• Papers (20 minutes including 5 minutes for questions/discussion)
• Symposia (90 minutes including 3 or 4 related papers)
• Posters
• Workshops (90 minute sessions)

Please note:
Presentation of accepted abstracts is contingent on registration for the conference; persons whose abstracts are accepted will be required to register with payment at least 6 weeks prior to the conference in order for their presentation to appear on the final program.

A template for abstracts, including a statement on Ethical Compliance, can be downloaded from our website: www.conorg.com.au

Please forward abstracts, using the template, by email to info@conorg.com.au
Confirmation of receipt of abstracts will be emailed within 72 hours; if you do not receive this confirmation, please contact us.

For further details regarding the Conference, please contact:
Telephone: (+61) (03) 9349 2220
Email: info@conorg.com.au
Fax: (+61) (03) 9349 2230

The Marcé Society

The principal aim of the society is to promote, facilitate and communicate about research into all aspects of the mental health of women, their infants and partners around the time of childbirth. This involves a broad range of research activities ranging from basic science through to health services research.

The Society is multidisciplinary and encourages involvement from all disciplines including: psychiatrists, psychologists, paediatricians, obstetricians, midwives, early childhood nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, community psychiatric nurses, community nurses and health visitors.

The society also encourages the involvement of consumer and carer (self-help) groups.

For further information about the society and membership, please visit the International website (www.marcesociety.com) or the Australasian website (www.marcesociety.com.au).

HOST CITY

Melbourne

Regarded by many as the cultural capital of Australia, Melbourne is the perfect setting for our conference.

A friendly, multicultural city located on the banks of the Yarra River, Melbourne offers excellent shopping, world class cultural events, and spectacular food and wine from over 3,000 restaurants. You’ll find endless rows of cafes and boutiques along the riverside at Southgate, in the lanes and streets of the city centre and adjoining bohemian neighbourhoods like Carlton, Fitzroy, St Kilda and South Yarra.

Outside Melbourne, you’ll find a host of regional attractions, from the Fairy Penguins to the spectacular Great Ocean Road.

For more information about Melbourne, check the following websites:
www.melbourne.citysearch.com.au
www.melbourne.vic.gov.au
www.visitvictoria.com.au

PRINCIPAL SPONSOR:

GOLD/SOIREE SPONSOR:

BRONZE SPONSOR:

beyondblue
Depression, Anxiety.

St John of God
Raphael Centre.

MASADA
PRIVATE HOSPITAL