

**OBSTETRIC ANAESTHESIA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP  
ANNUAL REPORT TO  
ANAESTHESIA CONTINUING EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MAY 2011**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Obstetric Anaesthesia Special Interest Group of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, the Australian Society of Anaesthetists and the New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, continues to promote science and education through its activities in 2010. This report to the Anaesthesia Continuing Education Coordinating Committee (ACCEC) covers the activities and finances of the Obstetric Anaesthesia Special Interest Group (OA SIG) for the year 2010. It also includes the future planned educational and scientific activities of the group.

## **2. CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

In accordance with the generic SIG constitution, a new executive committee was elected at the annual general meeting of the 2010 Australian Society of Anaesthetists at the National Scientific Congress held in Melbourne from October 2 – 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Executive currently comprises:

Chair	Associate Professor Alicia Dennis	VIC
Member	Professor Michael Paech	WA
Member	Associate Professor Stephen Gatt	NSW
Member	Associate Professor Steven Katz	NSW
Member	Dr Nolan McDonnell	WA
Member	Dr Genevieve Goulding	QLD
Member	Dr Kym Osborn	SA
Member	Dr Jane Brown	NSW
Member	Dr Victoria Eley	QLD
Co-opted Member	Dr Peter Smith	NSW
Co-opted Member	Dr Jack Hill	NZ

In keeping with the constitution, Dr Kym Osborn vacated the position of Chair on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2010 and was succeeded by Dr Alicia Dennis. Dr Kym Osborn's hard work is greatly appreciated.

The OA SIG maintains a secretarial link with the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA).

## **3. MEMBERSHIP**

The SIG currently has 932 members and 1 associate member. The OA SIG does not charge fees for associate members.

## 4. ACTIVITIES 2010

### Scientific meetings

The OA SIG continues to support the major National meetings.

#### 4.1 ANZCA Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) Christchurch May 1st – 5<sup>th</sup> 2010 How Meets Why.

The OA SIG contributed one session at this meeting.

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 1200 - 1330 Chair: Dr Nigel Skjellerup

Dr Pamela Flood – modeling the time course of labour pain and progress

Dr Nolan McDonnell – Resuscitation in the parturient

Dr Alicia Dennis – The ROSE examination – transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) for obstetric anaesthesia and obstetric critical illness

#### 4.2 Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA) National Scientific Congress (NSC) Melbourne October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> 2010 Skills and Technology.

A major theme of the meeting was obstetric anaesthesia therefore two sessions were run on obstetric anaesthesia, a workshop was conducted on TTE in pregnant women and problem based learning discussions (PBLD) were run on resuscitation of the pregnant woman.

Topics covered were:

Post-caesarean section pain management – Associate Professor Brendan Carvalho

Preeclampsia and eclampsia: current snippets – Dr Phil Popham

The parturient with co-morbidities – Dr Maggie Wong

Massive obstetric haemorrhage – Dr Andrew Buettner

Hypotension and spinal anaesthesia in caesarean section - Associate Professor Brendan Carvalho

Surgery during pregnancy – Dr Vangy Malkoutzis

History and evolution of obstetric anaesthesia – Dr Andrew Ross

### Quality Improvement, Educational and Scientific resources

#### 4.3 Obstetric Anaesthesia Scientific Collaboration Australasia (OASCA)

This is an exciting ongoing project which has been developed over the last five years. It represents the evolution of the Scientific Evidence Guideline project, launched at the OA SIG meeting in Blenheim 2008, to a more sustainable and expanded resource. Ongoing positive feedback and support from the parent bodies, the OA SIG executive members and the OA SIG membership for many years has enabled this to occur. The resource is freely accessible and of high quality with the current documents written by experts in the areas of obstetric anaesthesia and obstetric critical illness. This project is lead by Associate Professor Scott Simmons (former executive member and Chair of OA SIG).

The Constitution (Appendix 1) and Licence Agreement (Appendix 2) of OASCA were formalised in January 2010. As such, OASCA was formed after consideration and approval by the OA SIG and is responsible through the ACECC, to the parent bodies of the ANZCA, the ASA, and the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (NZSA).

Its purpose is to promote the highest quality care in women's health in the specialty areas of women's anaesthesia, critical care and pain management through the sourcing, analysis and presentation of scientific evidence and the fostering and promotion of original research and of the

activities of clinical researchers in these fields. The principal of high quality freely available and assessable educational material was, and still is, fundamental to the development of this resource.

A summary report was sent to ACECC in April 2010 (Appendix 3) and the first teleconference of the OASCA occurred on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010 (Appendix 4 – attached as a separate pdf document).

The priority for OASCA in 2010 was the assembling of people who would actively contribute to the sustainability of OASCA, as well as creating and/or revising the current evidence based documents already on the website. These basic building blocks (i.e. the nature and purpose of the enterprise, its governance structure and associated processes and tools that will be required to run it as well as a funding stream approved via direct correspondence from the Executive Officer ANZCA Continuing Professional Development) constitute the foundations of the Business Plan for OASCA.

The priorities for OASCA in 2011 are:

1. OA SIG Executive needs to appoint the OASCA Editorial Board according to 3.2 of the OASCA Constitution. The foundation principal editors are Associate Professor Scott Simmons and Dr Allan Cyna with the senior editorial advisor being Professor Michael Paech.
2. The OA SIG executive needs to decide how the materials are to be presented, the webpage development and interface, and the administrative support required.
3. Currently OASCA has funds of approximately \$22,000. It is important to note that at the time of the original development of the Scientific Evidence Project, there was no cost for creating the webpage access for the documents.

#### OA SIG Executive Teleconferences

In addition to the annual general meeting, during 2010 the OA SIG met twice via teleconference – July 28<sup>th</sup> and November 23<sup>rd</sup> - Appendix 5 and Appendix 6 (attached as separate pdf documents).

### **5. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2011 AND 2012**

#### Scientific meetings

##### 5.1 Combined scientific meeting ANZCA and Hong Kong Society of Anaesthetists Hong Kong May 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> 2011

A major theme of the meeting is obstetric anaesthesia with the scientific convenor of the meeting being Professor Warwick Ngan Kee. Two obstetric anaesthesia sessions, as well as a workshop in TTE in pregnant women and a PBLD on management of a woman with preeclampsia are being presented.

Topics covered will be:

Saving Mothers' Lives: Lessons for anaesthesia from the latest Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths – Dr Steven Yentis

New insights into the haemodynamic changes in preeclampsia – Dr Alicia Dennis

Novel techniques for post caesarean analgesia – Dr Nolan McDonnell

Strategies to optimize labour analgesia – Dr Brendan Carvalho

Failed spinals in obstetrics: cause, prediction, prevention and management – Dr Phil Popham

Accidental dural puncture and postdural puncture headache: best practice and management – Professor Michael Paech

##### 5.2 ASA NSC Congress Sydney September 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> 2011.

Dr Nolan McDonnell (OA SIG executive member) is the Australasian invited speaker for this meeting. The OA SIG is providing speakers and chairs for two sessions at this meeting as follows:

Friday 9th September 1430 – 1630 Chair: Dr Alicia Dennis

Epidural analgesia and consent - Dr Tim Porter

Communication - Dr Allan Cyna

Airway devices in obstetrics - Dr Peter Effeney

TAP blocks and caesarean birth - Dr James Griffiths

Saturday 10th September 1330 – 1500 Chair: Dr Peter Smith

Prevention of DVT in obstetrics: what should we be doing? - Dr Nolan McDonnell

Obstetric haemorrhage - Dr Nick Jegathesan

Pulmonary hypertension in pregnancy - Dr Jane Brown

Preeclampsia and cardiac crises – Dr Alicia Dennis

5.3 ANZCA ASM – Perth 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Plans are underway for presentations to be given in the areas of obstetric anaesthesia and obstetric critical illness. Professor Michael Paech (OA SIG executive member and former Chair) is the scientific convener of this meeting.

5.4 OA SIG Conference – Bunker Bay 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Dr Nolan McDonnell is the scientific convener of this meeting.

Quality Improvement, Educational and Scientific resources

Ongoing work relating to OASCA with the publication of further scientific documents.

OA SIG Executive Teleconference

OA SIG executive meetings are planned during the ANZCA and ASA meetings 2011/ 2012.

## **6. FINANCIAL REPORT 2010 – Appendix 7 (attached as a separate pdf document)**

### **Acknowledgements**

I would like to acknowledge the excellent support I have from the current OA SIG executive. I would also like to thank Associate Professor Scott Simmons, Dr Graham Sharpe and Dr Andrew Ottaway, members of the previous executive, for their work as part of the OA SIG executive and their advocacy of obstetric anaesthesia. Both Dr Graham Sharpe in New Zealand and Associate Professor Scott Simmons in Australia, promote quality and safety in maternity care and the maintenance of high educational and scientific standards. Their contribution to the OA SIG is greatly appreciated and I look forward to consulting with them in the years to come as they continue in their professional roles. I would also like to acknowledge the wonderful support and excellent work done by Ms Kirsty O'Connor SIG coordinator, and her staff.

Alicia Dennis  
Chair,  
OA SIG  
ANZCA/ASA/NZSA

## Appendix 1 OASCA Constitution

# OBSTETRIC ANAESTHESIA SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION AUSTRALASIA (OASCA)

## CONSTITUTION January 2010

### 1. NAME AND FORMATION

- 1.1. The name of the body shall be the Obstetric Anaesthesia Scientific Collaboration Australasia (OASCA) – below referred to as the ‘Collaboration’.
- 1.2. OASCA will be formed after consideration and approval by the Obstetric Anaesthesia Special Interest Group (OASIG) and shall be responsible through the Anaesthesia Continuing Education Co-ordinating Committee (ACECC), to the parent bodies of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA), the Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA), and the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (NZSA).

### 2. PURPOSE

- 2.1. To promote the highest quality care in women’s health in the specialty areas of women’s anaesthesia, critical care and pain management through:
  - 2.1.1. the sourcing, analysis and presentation of scientific evidence and,
  - 2.1.2. the fostering and promotion of original research and of the activities of clinical researchers in these fields.

### 3. GOVERNANCE

- 3.1. OASCA is an entity of the OASIG and is bound by the constitution of the OASIG and all other relevant policies pertaining to the operations of Special Interest Groups defined by the three parent bodies and as may vary from time to time. Oversight of the strategic direction and operations of the Collaboration shall rest with the OASIG Executive Committee.
- 3.2. Management of OASCA is through a committee to be known as the OASCA Editorial Board – below referred to as the ‘Board’. The Board shall comprise at least four, but no more than six specialist anaesthetists who are full members of the OASIG. One of these positions shall at all times be held by the Chair of the OASIG.
- 3.3. Members of the Board shall be appointed by the OASIG Executive Committee. Two of these appointees will be designated ‘Principal Editors’. All other appointees shall be designated ‘Editorial Board Members’. Membership of the Editorial Board shall be for a period of six years but members may be eligible for re-appointment for a total period of no longer than twelve years.
- 3.4. The Principal Editors shall be responsible for:

- 3.4.1. determining final editorial content of published works,
- 3.4.2. ensuring the timely completion of activities undertaken by the Collaboration,
- 3.4.3. ensuring the maintenance and ongoing development of an electronic catalogue of the published works of the Collaboration,
- 3.4.4. organizing and chairing meetings of the Board as required,
- 3.4.5. providing a report of the activities of the Collaboration to the OASIG Executive Committee for inclusion in the annual report of the OASIG.
- 3.4.6. providing reports of professional interest from time to time for publication in the ANZCA Bulletin, the ASA Newsletter and the NZSA Newsletter.

#### **4. ACTIVITIES**

The activities of the Collaboration will include:

- 4.1. The creation and publication of reviews of scientific evidence on key clinical topics based on the best-obtainable evidence and specifically tailored to the needs of the Australasian region – these works to be known as OASCA Reviews.
- 4.2. Ensure the ready availability of OASCA Reviews and associated reference materials by optimal use of electronic publishing including but not limited to:
  - 4.2.1. a dedicated webpage publicly available,
  - 4.2.2. electronic documents with hypertext flexibility for the Reviews,
  - 4.2.3. a PDF version of these documents,
  - 4.2.4. clinician access to the cited references through the ANZCA library employing usual password authorization procedures.
- 4.3. The creation and maintenance of a catalogue of works published by the Collaboration – to be known as the OASCA Catalogue.
- 4.4. Provide a mechanism for the regular updating of Reviews at least once every three years.
- 4.5. Develop specific sections and/or activities dedicated to promoting audit and quality assurance activities directly related to each review topic area and with links to associated ANZCA policy documents, clinical indicators and other professional bodies as appropriate.
- 4.6. Maintain channels for end-user feedback to promote ongoing development which is cognisant of the needs of clinicians and consumers.

#### **5. ADMINISTRATION**

- 5.1. The Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists will be the publisher of the OASCA Reviews and will be responsible for maintaining the OASCA Catalogue.
- 5.2. The administrative support for publication and maintenance of the Catalogue shall be negotiated between the OASIG and ANZCA and shall be confirmed in writing and will apply for periods of three years.
- 5.3. The rights and responsibilities of OASCA and those of contributing authors of OASCA reviews shall be defined by a Licence for Publication agreement which satisfies all applicable considerations of approval, authorship, copyright, and further publication by both parties.

5.4. Financial management of OASCA is the responsibility of the OASIG and practices and procedures will be bound by of the constitution of the OASIG.

5.5. Financial reporting of the OASIG shall separately identify that pertaining to the activities of OASCA.

**6. GENERAL**

6.1. The OASIG Executive Committee shall be responsible for ensuring adherence to this constitution. If difficulties or problems arise with such adherence, the OASIG Executive Committee shall recommend appropriate action to the Anaesthesia Continuing Education Co-ordinating Committee.

6.2. The Collaboration will be disbanded on a recommendation from:

6.2.1. the OASIG Executive Committee to the Anaesthesia Continuing Education Co-ordinating Committee, which may then recommend on this dissolution to the Council / Executive Committee of ANZCA, ASA and NZSA. Dissolution will only occur if all three parent organisations concur.

6.2.2. any one or more of the Council / Executive Committee of ANZCA, ASA and NZSA. Dissolution will only occur if all three parent organisations concur.

## Appendix 2 OASCA Review Licence Agreement

### Obstetric Anaesthesia Scientific Collaboration Australasia (OASCA) Review

**OASCA Review ID:**

**Contact Reviewer:**

**Title:**

To be signed by all authors listed and returned to the Principal Editor for your Review before the Review can be published as an OASCA Review. A new form must be completed for every substantive update of the Review. Each author may sign a separate copy of this form but all copies must be returned to the Principal Editor.

**AUTHORSHIP** - I/we have made a substantial contribution to the conception and design, or analysis and interpretation of the content in this Review. I/we have reviewed the final version of the Review and approve its validity for publication.

**UPDATING** - I/we agree to maintain this Review in light of new evidence, comments and criticisms, and other developments, and to update the Review at least once every three years, or, if requested, transfer responsibility for maintaining the Review to others as agreed with the Editorial Board of OASCA.

**OASCA EDITORIAL BOARD APPROVAL** - I/we acknowledge that, to be published in the OASCA catalogue the Review must be approved by the Editorial Board of OASCA. The Editorial Board has the right to transfer responsibility for this Review to another author or authors, or to remove it from the catalogue if the Review is not kept up to date or otherwise does not meet the standards of the Obstetric Anaesthesia Scientific Collaboration Australasia.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST** - I/we confirm that any present or past affiliations or other involvement in any organisation or entity with an interest in the Review which might lead me/us to have a real or perceived conflict of interest are listed below. ("None known" should be written if there are no conflicts of interest.)

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Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, 630 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3004.

Website: [www.anzca.edu.au](http://www.anzca.edu.au),  
Email: [ceoanzca@anzca.edu.au](mailto:ceoanzca@anzca.edu.au)).

**Conflict of interest statement as included in the Review:**

**Contact reviewer (person who is taking principal responsibility for this Review)**

Name:  
Mailing address:  
Telephone:  
Fax:  
E-Mail:  
Date:  
Signature:

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Date:  
Signature:

**Co-reviewer(s)**

Name:  
Mailing address:  
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Date:  
Signature:

**Co-reviewer(s)**

Name:

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Date:

Signature:

**When all authors have signed and dated this form, please return it by post or fax to the OASCA Review Co-ordinator.**

## SUMMARY REPORT

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To:	ACECC
From:	Scott Simmons, Chair Obstetric Anaesthesia, Scientific Evidence Project
CC:	Kym Osborn, Chair OA SIG
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> April 2010
Re:	<b>Development of Obstetric Anaesthesia Scientific Collaboration Australasia (OASCA)</b>

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The Obstetric Anaesthesia Scientific Evidence Project was approved by ANZCA Council, the ASA and NZSA in 2007 for the production of a set of web-based documents pertaining to key clinical topics in obstetric anaesthesia based on the best available evidence and relevant to Australasian anaesthetists. This project and the first content were officially launched at the OASIG meeting at Blenheim in October 2008.

The response to this initial product by the anaesthesia community was extremely favourable, prompting additional effort to ensure that more than just a once-off set of documents was produced. Hence, considerable work has been undertaken to create a sustainable entity to ensure that the scientific reviews remain current and a useful resource to clinicians and trainees over time. It became apparent shortly after release of the first small set of reviews however that there were a number of unresolved matters, particularly in relation to the detail of copyright, recognition of authorship, rights of republication and so on. In many respects these considerations presented new challenges for the parent bodies essentially now operating together as a publisher of academic works.

In light of the above, the Steering Committee of the Project proposed a new body, OASCA, operating under the auspices of the OA SIG but with its own constitution and other elements specifically designed to deal with legitimate concerns of authorship, and copyright and financial accountability. The first budget for this newly created entity of \$22,250 for 2010 was approved as part of the budget-setting process for the SIG in late 2009. Consistent with the constitution, an Editorial Board will be in place by early May 2010. Clin A/Prof Scott Simmons and Dr Allan Cyna have agreed to fill the roles of Principal Editors with support from Prof Mike Paech as Senior Editorial Advisor. Final recruitment of reviewers should be late May.

It is expected that work will commence by June 2010, initially concentrating on expanding the current topic list and updating those reviews that had been produced as part of the Scientific Evidence Project.

**Appendix 4 – OASCA teleconference June 2010 - attached as a separate document**

**Appendix 5 – OA SIG Executive teleconference July 2010 - attached as a separate document**

**Appendix 6 – OA SIG Executive teleconference November 2010 - attached as a separate document**

**Appendix 7 – OA SIG Financial report 2010 - attached as a separate document**