

Waitemata DHB Clinical Governance Committee Report for NZCOM Auckland Region

The critical issues with Waitemata DHB are most likely the same as other Auckland DHB's and are ongoing

- Difficulty recruiting and retaining midwifery and obstetric staff
- lack of LMC Midwives in the community
- a workload that exceeds the facility and staffing capacity.

The rates of induction and caesarean are increasing and we have focused on promotion of "normal" birth. Some of the work around this has been

- approval for a new Primary Birthing unit in West Auckland. This is still in the planning stage so is some time from being completed.
- Promotion of homebirth as a viable option for women – development of a poster for antenatal clinic promoting homebirth.
- supplying birth packs free of charge to LMC's for homebirths
- homebirth study day for midwives completed.
- Protecting the perineum – posters were developed and towel warmers installed in every birthing unit
- ASAP (As Soon As you're Pregnant) project to encourage women to book with an LMC early in the first trimester is currently being worked on.

Pulse oximetry screening has been approved for newborns at WDHB. Education for staff has commenced and a budget proposal has been made for consumables.

North Shore and Waitakere Hospital's virtual tour video was completed and put online on healthpoint. The plan is to put more educational and information videos up for consumers on an ongoing basis. The virtual tour has had positive feedback.

Response to feedback from women that they wanted their partners to be able to stay overnight has led to a gradual introduction of partners staying. Feedback has been positive.

It has been a pleasure to represent LMC's from the North Shore on this committee and I look forward to being on the MCGF in the coming year.

Karen Carson
LMC Midwife Rep, North Shore