

Reports

Barriers to Service Delivery for Young Pregnant Women and Mothers

This report shows that the barriers to service delivery for young pregnant women and mothers fall into three main categories: Common barriers; Barriers specific to particular services; and Barriers specific to vulnerable subgroups.

The report also finds that the above barriers occur in complex relationships with each other that can become self-perpetuating. The more barriers a young woman faces, and/or the more vulnerabilities that she experiences, the more difficult it is for her to access services, and the more difficult it will be for service providers to accommodate her needs. To read the report visit [www.facs.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/VIA/nyars/\\$file/NYARS.pdf](http://www.facs.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/VIA/nyars/$file/NYARS.pdf)

Cyberbullying and Online Teens

This report from the Pew Internet & American Life Project looks at the burgeoning worldwide issue of cyberbullying. Although the focus is on 12–17-year-olds, this is such an important issue that we believe it falls under the umbrella of the care and education of children. This document may be of help to families with older children.

According to the report:

'About one third (32%) of all teenagers who use the internet say they have been targets of a range of annoying and potentially menacing online activities – such as receiving threatening messages; having their private emails or text messages forwarded without consent; having an embarrassing picture posted without permission; or having rumors about them spread online.'

Visit www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP%20Cyberbullying%20Memo.pdf

Where to seek help for a mental disorder?

National survey of the beliefs of Australian youth and their parents
Anthony F Jorm, Annemarie Wright and Amy J Morgan

To determine the intentions that young people have for seeking help if they were to develop a mental disorder. A National survey of the beliefs of Australian youth and their parents has been conducted and the results appear in a recent edition of the Medical Journal of Australia.

Visit www.mja.com.au/public/issues/187_10_191107/jor10336_fm.pdf to read the report.

Northern Territory Intervention

Protecting little children's health — or not?
Peter W Tait

The timing of the federal government's intervention to protect little children in the Northern Territory has been viewed by some with cynicism. And well it might be. The intervention needs to be seen in the broader context of what could be called the "white blindfold" view of history. The white blindfold obscures the benefits that modern Australians have inherited as a consequence of European colonisation of this country. It hides any understanding of how dispossession of the Aboriginal first nations has resulted in the poverty, illness and violence that the government is now, belatedly, seeking to rectify.

Read the report at www.mja.com.au/public/issues/187_11_031207/tai11292_fm.html

Pain in children

Dr Lisa Nissen

'Are we under treating pain in children? This is a question that has been raised in the medical and lay press at various times over the past few years. Yet it has been more than 25 years since the first reports were published highlighting the inadequate treatment of children's pain. Dr Lisa Nissen asks if anything has changed in our understanding, assessment and management of pain in children over the past 25 years.

Read the report at www.psa.org.au/site.php?id=2032

Improving services for children in hospital

Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection

This improvement review of services for children in hospital was based on aspects of the hospital standard of the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services, published by the Government in 2003. The national service framework sets the standards for services across health, education and social care for children and their families over the next 10 years.

The review looked at services received by children throughout hospitals – not just in paediatric departments. It focused on those areas in which healthcare organisations (trusts) should have already made improvements. In particular the review asked:

- are children treated in environments that are child friendly, specifically dedicated to children or on children's surgical lists?
- are services available at a number of locations which are close to patients' homes?
- do services have appropriate cover from a range of staff? For example, nurses, play staff, pain teams and those able to provide emergency life support?
- are nursing, surgical, anaesthetist and paediatric medical staff trained in a number of essential or desirable skills for caring for children in hospital?
- are services organised so that staff who come into contact with children can maintain their skills, by seeing sufficient numbers of cases involving children?

The review found that some parts of the NHS needs to do more to deliver consistent high quality care for children. It showed that the quality of care provided to children in inpatients' services was good, with 71% of trusts scoring good or excellent and almost all children (99%) are treated in children-only wards. It also showed that trusts have made a number of improvements to hospital environments to meet the needs of children.

To read the full report visit:

www.healthcarecommission.org.uk/db/documents/children_improving_services_Tagged.pdf