

Minutes of Child Health SIG AGM, Tuesday 27th September, 2005

Opened AGM meeting at 1315 Perth time, 27th September, 2005, held during lunchtime at the PHAA conference, The Sheraton Hotel in the Hamersley North Room.

Agenda Items -:

1. Welcome to members.

Those in attendance were Jan de Groot, Garth Alperstein, Andrew Blair, Lyn Colvin, Sue Cooke, Rani Param, Jan Payne, Judy Stratton, Liz Waters, Sue Woolfenden, Caroline Wraith.

Apologies Linda Slack-Smith

2. Minutes of previous meeting were accepted as correct.
3. Presentation of Financial Report.

Current financial figures as of 31/5/05 were presented. The SIG currently has 97 members and these funds are available to run SIG based activities.

Ideas were called for which may help increase the SIGS membership base through SIG based activities or through other avenues.

4. Election of Officers.

Jan de Groot offered the Convenor's position available for anyone who was interested or alternatively would continue in the role in preference to it being empty and the SIG being inactive. It was proposed by Garth Alperstein and seconded by Judy Stratton that Jan de Groot stay in the role.

5. Work Plan 2005/2006.

a) Policy Updates.

The Child Health SIG is responsible for keeping up-to-date the following policies-:

- Improving the Health of School Aged Children and Young People
- Periconceptual Folate
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
- Television Food Advertising During Children's Viewing Times
- Smoking and Children
- Neonatal Hearing Screening
- Socio-Economic Inequality & Its Negative Health Impact for Children and Families

The idea of the SIG keeping up-to-date with our policies is to ensure that the information on that topic is current and freely available if we need to make comment or use our position in advocacy situations. We are sadly lacking in enthusiasm for the

topics of Smoking and Children and Socio-Economic Inequalities. Discussion developed around the policy of Socio-Economic Inequalities in particular that next years conference 'Tackling the Determinants of Health, From the Bush to Bondi' will focus on social determinants of disease. Sue W and Garth have offered to take a first look at this policy and if possible to provide some direction to it's update.

If anyone has a student or other interested person that may like to review the policy on Smoking and Children that would be appreciated or it will be archived and packed away.

b) Policy Gaps

If members have a burning desire to propose new policies on any topics of interest from their own areas, they can present them to the SIG. If there are gaps in our policies and areas we wish to cover please present them to the SIG also. Ideas suggested were obesity/child protection issues.

c) Ongoing partnership with the Chapter of Community Child health, Child Population SIG of the Paediatrics and Child Health Division of the RACP was discussed. Support exists for the ongoing alliance and benefits that can be had from

i) Information Sharing- continuation of the Top Hot Reads and information dissemination between our groups,

ii) Policy development and endorsement by both groups with a resultant strong advocacy position to topics.

6. Priorities 2005/2006.

a) Updating the Socio-Economic Inequalities Policy was identified as a priority in view of the current climate of health focus and conference theme for next year.

b) Enhancing the synergy between the Chapter of Community Child health and our SIG.

c) Prioritising child health advocacy issues, if possible.

7. Other Business

To remind all members to keep their e-mail details current. The Child Health SIG communicates primarily by e-mail and, hence, old e-mail addresses bounce back and are deleted from the list. These members then receive no information from the SIG at all.

8. Next Meeting.

Annual AGM will be held next year at or near the 25th-29th September, 2006, to coincide with the annual PHAA Conference, currently planned for the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney.

Meeting closed at 1345.