SEA-ORCHID Project

South East Asia: Optimising Reproductive and Child Health Outcomes in Developing Countries

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Broad scientific question

- Can the health of mothers and babies in Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and Malaysia be improved by:
 - increasing capacity for the synthesis of research;
 - implementation of effective interventions; and
 - identification of gaps in knowledge needing further research in those countries?



Aims

Designed to answer the following questions:

- 1. What is the current teaching and practice related to pregnancy and childbirth in SE Asia?
- 2. What are the local barriers to the use of research in SE Asia and how can they be overcome?
- Will a targeted intervention to build capacity for the generation, evaluation and implementation of relevant evidence lead to improved research output, research implementation and health outcomes?



Rationale

- access to reliable health information for workers in developing countries is potentially the single most cost effective and achievable strategy for <u>sustainable</u> improvement in health care
- changing behaviour of health workers is a complex process requiring a multi-dimensional approach that is flexible, participatory and relevant
- Building on existing networks and partnerships





Methods

Pre-intervention phase (2004-05)

- establishment of SE Asian nodes
- baseline data collection

Intervention phase (2005-07)

- educating practitioners in evidence-based practice
- supporting the preparation of systematic reviews and the development of guidelines
- promoting effective dissemination and identifying research priorities
- academic exchange through fellowships and AUS-based Educator study tours

Outcome & reporting phase (2007-08)

- reassessment of the practice and outcomes measured in phase one
- ongoing dissemination of results



Primary outcomes

- 20 areas of current practice
- 10 health outcomes of mothers & babies
- at least 1000 women admitted over 9-month period at each site (~9000 women)

Designed to answer:

- were best practice recommendations applied
- impact of practices on health of mothers & babies



Recommended practices being measured

- magnesium sulphate for eclampsia and pre-eclampsia
- use of corticosteroids prior to pre-term birth
- continuous support for women in labour
- selective use of episiotomy
- active management for the third stage of labour
- vacuum rather than forceps for operative delivery
- intra-operative antibiotics at time of caesarean section



Secondary outcomes

Levels of evidence-based practice & policy

- number of research projects
- quantity & quality of national & local clinical practice guidelines
- review of EBM in undergraduate medical & nursing curricula
- contribution of SE Asians to the Cochrane Collaboration

Qualitative data collection

 analysis of barriers to practice change, including identification of culturally specific barriers to use of clinical practices



Planned training activities

- Generators of evidence & evidence-based materials: systematic reviewers & guideline developers
 - Critical appraisal of evidence, systematic reviewing, guideline development
- Users of evidence: clinicians & policymakers
 - Use of Cochrane & Reproductive Health Libraries
 - Implementation & use of guidelines
 - Accessing & interpreting evidence
- Educators about evidence: teachers & trainers
 - Provide material & training on principals of evidencebased practice



Progress to date – primary outcomes



- nine tertiary, regional and provincial hospitals selected
- baseline data collection started March 2005
- web-based data entry
- 8,500 births recorded



- program logic framework developed, incorporating behaviour change model
- tools to measure secondary outcomes developed
- recruited three Australian-based clinical educators developing methods and tools
- Appointment of SEA-based educators, and educators' study tour to Australia Oct/Nov 2005
- Planning of the intervention phase



Expected outcomes

- significant positive impact on health of mothers and babies
- establishment of network of researchers & clinicians
- ongoing development of evidence-based practice & policy
- capacity building...



Capacity building

- train clinicians to find, interpret and implement best relevant evidence
- ensure locally relevant evidence available and accessible
- identify important questions for future local research
- base policy decisions on research findings
- develop and implement local clinical practice guidelines



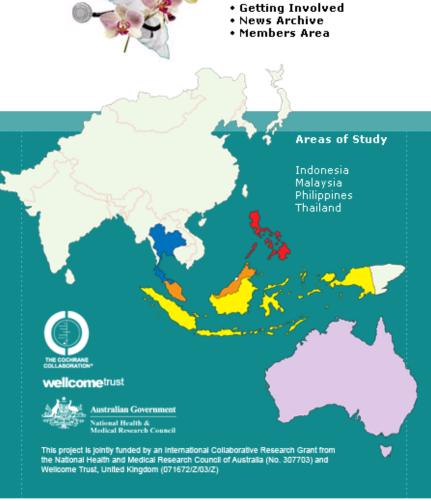
SOUTH EAST ASIA
OPTIMISING REPRODUCTIVE
AND CHILD HEALTH IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

SEA-ORCHID is a five-year collaborative project (2004-08) between four countries in South East Asia (Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines and Indonesia) and Australia. The Project aims to address whether the health of mothers and babies in the four SE Asian countries can be improved by increasing the capacity for research synthesis and improving the implementation of effective interventions. SEA-ORCHID is jointly funded by the Wellcome Trust and the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council. [read more]

Reaching Out

WHAT'S NEW@SEA-ORCHID

- ⇒ Primary data collection nears completion 15 Sep 2005
- ⇒ WHO shows interest in SEA-ORCHID 15 Sep 2005.
- → Next SEA-ORCHID Project Conference in Melbourne, October 2005 15 Sep 2005
- ⇒ SE Asian Educators join SEA-ORCHID team 15 Sep. 2005



About SEA-ORCHID
Knowledge Bank
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Calendar

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