

ACT ANTENATAL SHARED CARE GUIDELINES

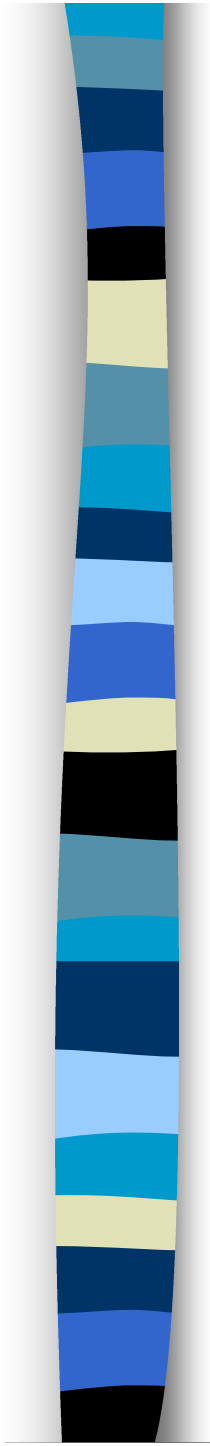
Tanya Robertson – GP Advisor TCH

Jan Ironside – GP Liaison Officer TCH

Laji Mathew – GP Advisor Calvary

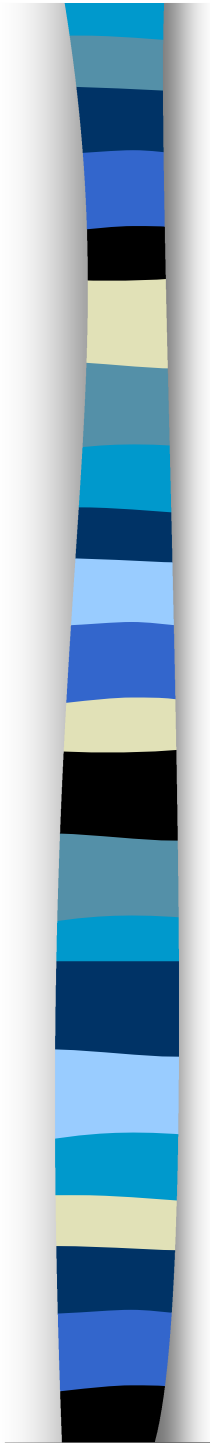
Sharon Hindmarsh – GP Liaison Officer Calvary





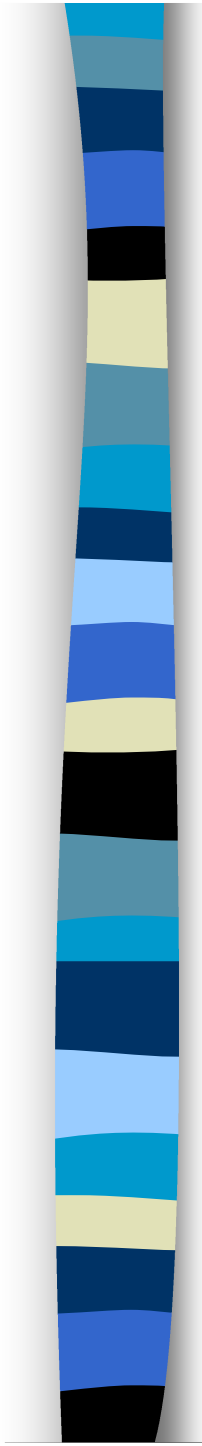
Background

- Initiated by Midwifery Educator at request of DON Calvary in collaboration with VMOs and “northside” GPs
- ME moved to Canberra Hospital part way through development. Decision made to develop territory-wide guidelines
- Intended for:
 - women who plan to birth within public system in the ACT
 - Low risk/moderate risk pregnancies
- TCH staff specialists and GP Liaison Unit as well as “southside” GPs became involved



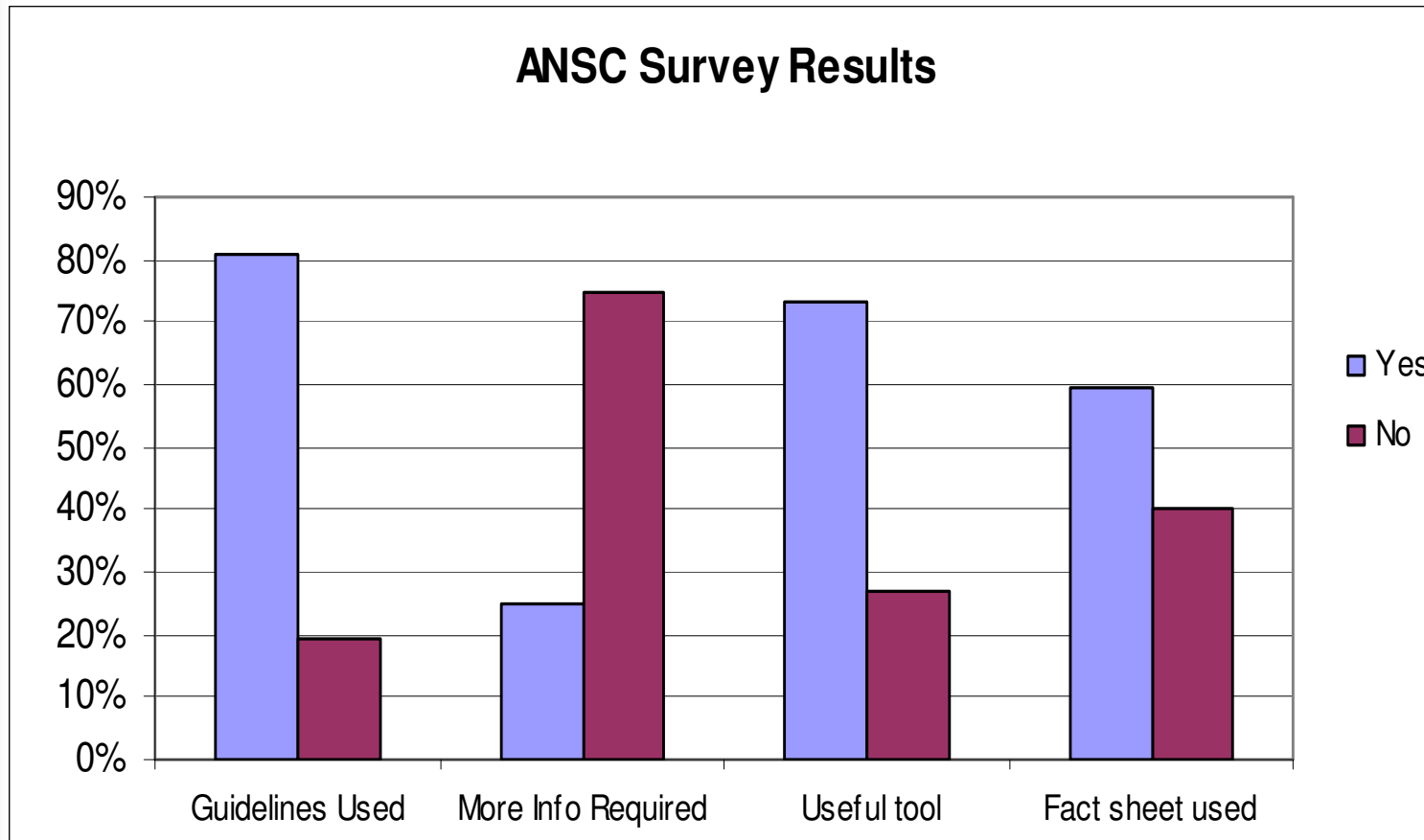
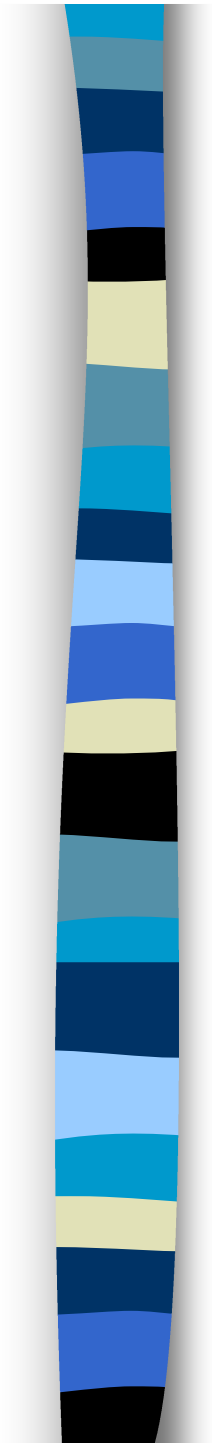
Development of guidelines

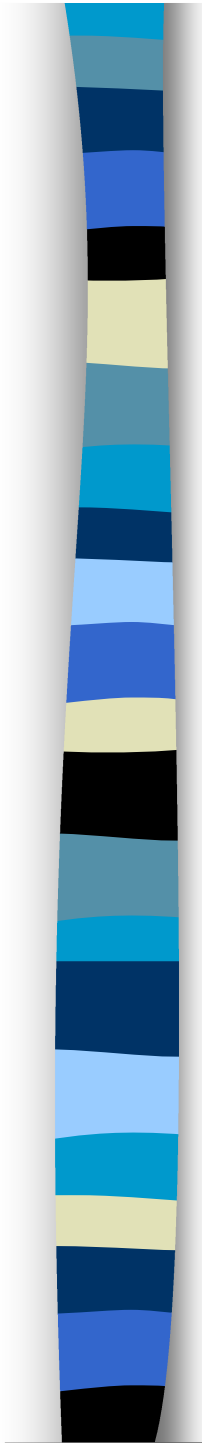
- formation of working party in 2003.
Reps – consumers, maternity staff from both hospitals, ACT Health Policy group, GP Liaison, GPs
- New evidence based practices were incorporated
- “women’s held record” developed
- Checklist developed



Development of guidelines cont'd

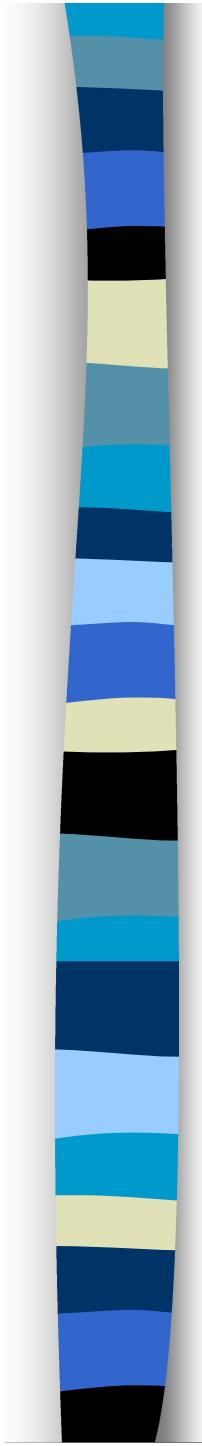
- Development phase – 2 years approx
- First launched September 2004 by ACT Minister for Health, Simon Corbell
- GP education session held at time of launch
- Hand delivered to GP surgeries by GP Liaison Units
- GPs surveyed 6 months later





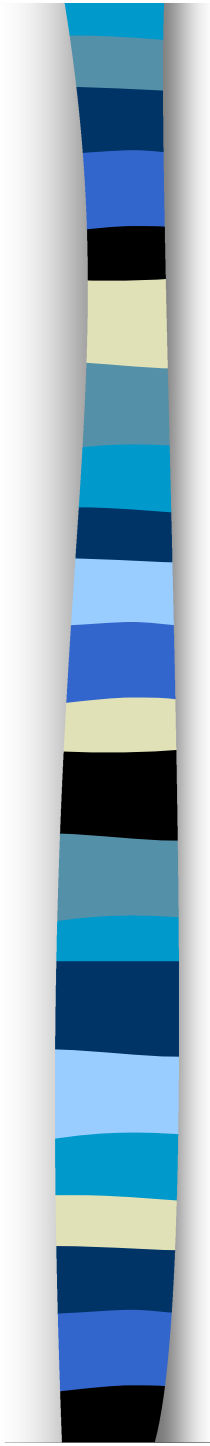
Review Process

- Guidelines reviewed, redesigned and redistributed in May 2006
- Included more information for consumers and templates for referrals for GPs
- Women's Health card redesigned and relaunched May 2006
- Antenatal education workshop held in May 2006



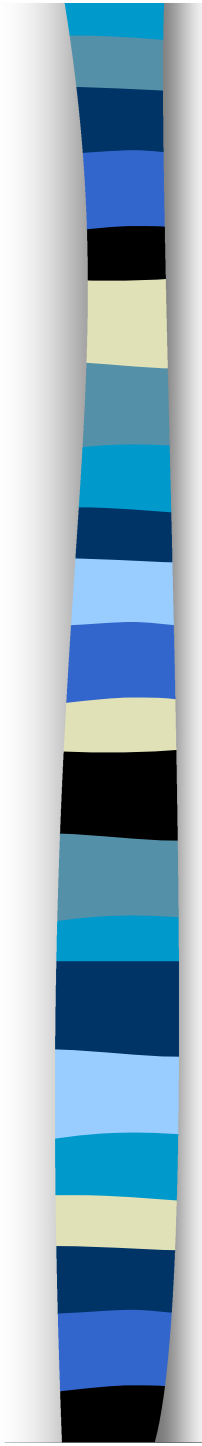
challenges

- Coordination of working party
- Meeting deadlines – feedback; printing
- Agreement about changes to be incorporated
- Clarifying responsibilities – policy and operational levels
- Dealing with “blame” issues
- bureaucracy
- Staff changes
- Education at hospital and GP level – 2004/2006 workshops
- Funding: initial and ongoing
- Distribution/promotion of guidelines



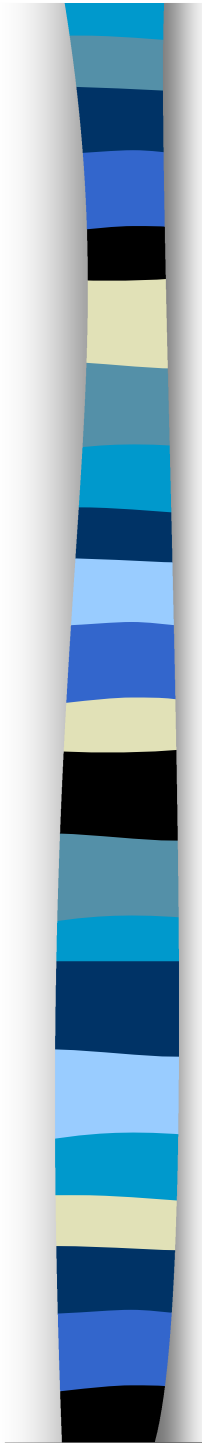
positives

- Building of partnerships between GP Liaison and Maternity Unit staff
- 2006 Workshop
- Streamlining of processes – “checklist” to assist practitioners with planning antenatal visits and investigations
- Increase interest from GPs – including rural/coastal areas around ACT



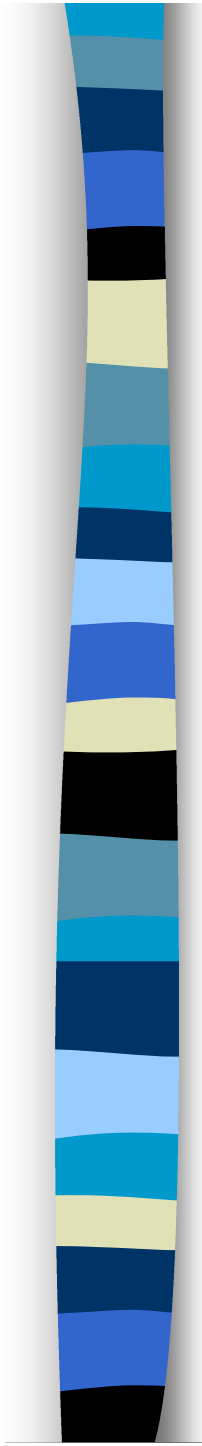
Having a foot in both camps

- GP Liaison Officer works one session a week in Antenatal Clinic. This has highlighted:
 - Need for consistency (but flexibility)
 - Ongoing areas to improve:
 - sharing of results
 - Working as a team
 - More streamlining of referral processes
 - frustrations exist on both sides.
 - Midwives now regularly contact GPLU to assist finding a GP for women



Way forward

- Policy area to coordinate review of guidelines instead of GP Liaison Unit
- Have clear defined timeframes for review
- Card to be reviewed early in 2007
- Continue to use clinical expertise
- Database of GPs doing shared cared
- Accreditation process
- See what is happening nationally



Acknowledgements

- Staff Specialists and midwives from Maternity Units at Calvary Health Care and The Canberra Hospital
- ACT Division of General Practice
- GP Liaison Units at Calvary Health Care and The Canberra Hospital
- ACT Pathology