

NSWHEALTH

**MINISTERIAL
STANDING COMMITTEE
on
HEARING
(MSC-H)**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2005 - 2006**

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BACKGROUND

The Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing (MSC-H) was established in February 2004 under Section 20 of the *Health Administration Act 1982* to provide the NSW Minister for Health with advice in relation to strategic directions for hearing services in NSW. The inaugural meeting of the Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing was held at Parliament House on 30 March 2004.

The Standing Committee has a broad role and strategic focus, working with other government departments and non-government organisations involved in the provision of hearing services.

The Standing Committee facilitates the multidisciplinary collaboration of service providers across the whole spectrum of care including screening, diagnosis, treatment, research, education and occupational safety.

The Standing Committee oversees hearing services in NSW, including:

- State-wide Infant Screening – Hearing (SWISH) program
- Diagnostic audiology services in Area Health Services
- Cochlear implant services

This report has been prepared to provide an overview of the Committee's achievements for 2005-2006 and to highlight key priority areas for the Committee for 2006-2008.

The report also separately outlines the key achievements in 2005-2006 of the following state-wide hearing health programs:

- State-wide Infant Screening - Hearing (SWISH) program
- Otitis media screening program for Aboriginal children 0-6 years
- Cochlear implant program

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The *Terms of Reference* for the Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing are to:

- Set strategic directions for hearing services in NSW, in consultation with key interest groups including people with hearing disabilities, members of the wider community, and health professionals.
- Identify gaps in the provision of hearing services whether in particular sectors of the community or by geographical area.
- Identify, consider and advise the Minister for Health on issues relating to:
 - Funding priorities for hearing services
 - Quality and appropriateness of hearing services, including the use of standard, agreed clinical pathways and treatment protocols
 - Timely and equitable consumer access to required services, including those for rural residents
 - Outcomes of investments in hearing services
 - Research, education and training programs.

The Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing, and its associated Working Groups and Sub-Committees, comprises a wide-ranging membership. It includes representation from clinicians, audiologists, hearing service providers, State and Australian government agencies, support and advocacy groups, parents of deaf children, and an aboriginal representative.

The Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing was chaired part year by The Hon Peter Anderson who resigned from the Committee on 6 February 2006. Ms Sue West acted as Chair to end June 2006.

Ms Susan Richards, a member of the MSC-H and Chair of the Cochlear Implant Sub-Committee, resigned on 15 June 2006. Mr Martyn Jones, representative of The Shepherd Centre, resigned on 13 February 2006 and a new nomination from The Shepherd Centre, was submitted to the Minister in late June 2006.

The Committee met four times in the financial year 2005-2006 and meetings were held on 21 July 2005, 20 September 2005, 2 December 2005, and 4 May 2006.

A list of Ministerial Standing Committee members is at *Appendix 1*.

SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The following Sub-Committee and Working Groups were established to provide specific advice to the Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing on key matters.

Cochlear Implant Sub-Committee

The Cochlear Implant Sub-Committee was established to review current issues in cochlear implant services for children and adults including the determination of needs, eligibility, challenges and opportunities, and to make recommendations for the future of cochlear implant services.

The Sub-Committee met once in the financial year on 1 June 2006 to consider the *Summary Report on the Projected Demand for Cochlear Implant Services in NSW Report (Eckstein & Masso 2005)* and develop key priorities for the cochlear implant program. Ms Leanne Wallace, Director, Primary Health and Community Partnerships Branch, acted as Chair of the Sub-Committee for this meeting due to the resignation of former Chair, Ms Susan Richards.

There are two sub groups under the Sub-Committee: the *Children's Cochlear Working Group* and the *Adult Cochlear Working Group*. Membership lists for the Sub-Committee and two Working Groups are attached at *Appendices 2.1 and 2.1*.

Family Support Working Group

The Working Group was established to review the current provision of support services for families with children and adolescents under 21 years of age, to identify issues in accessing family support, and to make recommendations for future family support services.

In 2005-2006, the Family Support Working Group was chaired by Ms Sue Rayner, the parent of a deaf child. The Group met four times in the financial year and meetings were held on 30 August 2005, 25 October 2005, 31 January 2006, and 31 March 2006.

A membership list is attached at *Appendix 3*.

Adult Services Working Group

The Working Group was established to review access to services for adults with hearing impairment and to recommend strategies to address service needs.

The Adult Services Working Group is chaired by Ms Sue West, the daughter of a deaf parent. The Working Group met four times in the financial year on 5 September 2005, 18 October 2005, 17 January 2006, and 4 April 2006.

A membership list is attached at *Appendix 4*.

Data Working Group

The Working Group was established to identify gaps and key issues in relation to hearing data collections and to recommend strategies to address these.

The Data Working Group is chaired by Ms Leanne Wallace, Director, Primary Health and Community Partnerships Branch, NSW Department of Health. The Group met once in the financial year on 24 August 2005.

A membership list is attached at *Appendix 5*.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing

1.1 Hearing Health website

The *Hearing Health* home page on the NSW Health website was established in 2004-2005 at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/hearing/index.html>.

The website is designed to assist people seeking information on hearing and hearing support services, and includes links to a range of key service providers and support groups.

In late 2005, the Standing Committee mapped and developed diagrams of the hearing services pathways for both adults and children to articulate the range of

options available and to assist with gap identification. *The Hearing Services Pathways* diagrams were uploaded on the *Hearing Health* website in early 2006. In 2006, the Standing Committee and Working Groups also finalised the drop-down pages for the *Hearing Services Pathways* diagrams for both *Adults 21 years and over* and *Children and young people under 21 years*. These pages provide detailed information on *Referral & Screening, Diagnosis and Assessment, and After Diagnosis* as well as links to support organisations for both age groups. The pages provide invaluable information for Deaf and hearing impaired people and their families, and consumers, on the hearing services pathway and can be accessed via the *Hearing Health* website.

1.2 Mapping of hearing services

1.2.1 Survey on Hearing Services in NSW

In 2005, the Family Support and Adult Services Working Groups undertook the *Survey on Hearing Services in NSW* to collect information on hearing services across the NSW. The surveys were sent to over 140 hearing service providers, funding agencies, and support groups. Information collected included:

- Types of services offered
- Access to services
- Links between services
- Cost of services
- Data collection

The aim of the Survey was to provide the Standing Committee with an overview of the range of hearing services available in NSW, and to assist with the identification of key issues and gaps.

1.2.2 Report to the Adult Services and Family Support Working Groups on the Survey on Hearing Services in NSW

Following consultation with both Working Groups in early 2006, the Primary Health and Community Partnerships Branch, NSW Department of Health, reviewed the data and information received from the 2005 *Survey on Hearing Services in NSW* responses and other information and prepared the *Report to the Adult Services and Family Support Working Groups on the Survey on Hearing Services in NSW*.

It was planned for both the Adult Services and Family Support Working Groups to review information and findings of the Report for consideration in the development of key recommendations for hearing services at a Joint Workshop on 6 July 2006. These key recommendations would be submitted to the MSC-H for endorsement as its key priorities for 2006-2008.

1.3 MSC-H - Key Priorities

Note: The Joint Workshop of the Adult Services and Family Support Working Groups was held on 6 July 2006 and does not fall within the 2005-2006 reporting period. For the purposes of this report, however, key priorities developed as a result of the Workshop and later submitted to the Ministerial Standing Committee are included in the section *MSC-H Key Priorities*.

1.4 Cochlear implants – Key Priorities

The Cochlear Implant Sub-Committee met on 1 June 2006 to consider recommendations from the *Summary Report on the Projected Demand for Cochlear Implant Services in NSW* (Eckstein, Masso 2005).

Key recommendations based on the Summary Report were developed at the meeting and later submitted to the Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing for endorsement.

The final Key Priorities for cochlear implants are included in the section on *MSC-H Key Priorities*.

1.5 Consumer protection

The Adult Services Working Group continued to pursue information from relevant state and federal consumer and fair trading organisations in relation to the rights and protection of consumers purchasing hearing aids, assistive listening devices and in-the-ear treatments for hearing impairment.

Similarly, information was also sought from hearing-related professional associations regarding the qualifications required by people fitting these devices including clinical practice standards, minimum qualifications, professional development requirements, and complaints resolution practices which are in place to protect consumers.

Responses and information obtained was included in the *Report to the Adult Services and Family Support Working Groups on the Survey on Hearing Services* for consideration by the Working Groups.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2. State-wide hearing health programs

2.1 State-wide Infant Screening-Hearing (SWISH) Program

SWISH program

The State-wide Infant Screening - Hearing (SWISH) program commenced in December 2002.

The SWISH Program aims to identify all babies born in NSW with significant permanent bilateral hearing loss by three months of age, and for those babies to be able to access appropriate intervention, by six months of age. Identification of hearing loss is achieved through universal hearing screening of all newborns.

The SWISH program incorporates newborn hearing screening services, diagnostic audiology services, medical (paediatrician) services and parent support (social worker) services. All of these services work together to ensure that newborns with suspected hearing impairment receive an efficient clinical pathway from screening to diagnosis and onto early intervention services if required.

The SWISH program also provides a travel assistance scheme to assist families with the costs of travelling to SWISH diagnostic audiology services where the family lives a considerable distance from a tertiary paediatric hospital.

SWISH screening

In 2005 and 2006 SWISH continued to meet the program's key performance indicators and the associated international benchmarks for early hearing detection and intervention programs.

The following represents a summary of SWISH statistics (Dec 2002-June2006):

- For the period May 2003 to June 2006, screening coverage rates have averaged over 95 per cent.
- Since the commencement of the program in December 2002 to June 2006, approximately 300,000 babies have been screened, with 278 infants identified by the program as having significant permanent bilateral hearing loss.
- The identification rate of significant permanent bilateral hearing loss by SWISH is approximately 0.9 per 1,000 births, which has remained steady since the commencement of the program.
- The number of newborns identified by screening as requiring diagnostic audiology (Dec 2002-Jun 2005) is 669 and the diagnostic audiology follow-up rate is 97 per cent.
- The average age of diagnosis of hearing loss in NSW has fallen from 18 months to 1.5 months, and the average age of first hearing aid fitting has fallen from 22 months (for severe losses) to 3.8 months for all losses.

Data related to the SWISH program for the period July 2005 to June 2006 can be found at *Appendix 6*.

SWISH presentations

From July 2005 to June 2006, the SWISH program gave presentations at many national and international conferences. Five presentations, two oral and three poster presentations on SWISH were made at the international NHS 2006 conference in Italy, covering topics such as program outcomes, outback screening and follow up to audiology services.

The SWISH program also gave a presentation at the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Annual Congress. SWISH poster presentations were also given at the Australian National Newborn Hearing Screening Conference.

Education

Education sessions were conducted by the NSW SWISH program for Sydney University, the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children, the Audiology Symposium and for nurses' education sessions. The SWISH program also provided consultation regarding program operation to the Tasmanian and Victorian newborn hearing screening programs.

2.2 Otitis media screening for Aboriginal children 0 - 6 years***NSW Aboriginal Affairs Plan 2003-2012: Two Ways Together***

The NSW Aboriginal Affairs Plan 2003-2012: *Two Ways Together* is an initiative of the NSW Government which specifically focuses on universal otitis media screening for 0 to 6 year-old Aboriginal children. Of the total four-year funding of \$2.49 million allocated to this initiative, which commenced in 2004/2005, a total of \$570,000 in funding was allocated for 2005/2006.

Otitis media (commonly referred to as "glue-ear") is an infection in the middle ear. Recurring and chronic middle ear infections can adversely affect health, learning ability, interaction skills and educational attainment. Middle ear infection is significantly higher in Aboriginal children than non-Aboriginal children.

The Centre for Aboriginal Health within the NSW Department of Health is responsible for implementing the Government's otitis media screening initiatives for 0 to 6 year-old Aboriginal children across NSW. The total population for the 0 to 6 years age cohort in NSW is 22,817. The screening target for 2005-2006, the second year of the initiative, was 70 per cent of this population, or 15,973 children.

Screening

Screening for the second year of the initiative has been completed with 12,971 Aboriginal children having been screened for otitis media infection. This equates to 81 per cent of the screening target for 2005-2006. While this represents some slippage from the target, it should be considered a good result. With additional Aboriginal Health Workers now trained in screening, this number can only increase as the program moves forward.

Data on *Population and Otitis Media Screening Targets for Aboriginal children 0-6 years (2005/2006)* and *2006/2007 Screening Targets* can be found at *Appendix 7*.

Community education

The Aboriginal Educational Consultative Group Inc is delivering community awareness and education sessions on the importance of screening for otitis media. This may encourage more parents to have their children checked for otitis media.

Training services

The Centre for Aboriginal Health engaged TAFE Oten to develop and deliver five training courses and three follow-up courses to Aboriginal Health Workers in 2005-2006. Sixty-two Aboriginal Health Workers successfully completed training during 2005-2006. A further four training courses are scheduled for 2006-2007 to train an additional sixty Aboriginal Health Workers. It is expected that the enhanced capacity of the health system to screen more children should be reflected in the 2006-2007 financial year screening figures. An open tender will determine the service provider to deliver the four training courses and two follow-up courses at regional venues throughout NSW in 2006-2007.

Equipment

Although otoscopes and tympanometers are the primary devices used in the detection of otitis media, audiometers have now also been supplied to past training participants to allow hearing assessments to be performed in conjunction with the otoscopy and tympanometry checks.

Strategic plans and support funding

All Area Health Services will be required to develop strategic Action Plans demonstrating how the 2006/07 and 2007/08 screening targets are to be met within their respective regions.

Reporting

A new *Otitis Media Screening Reporting Proforma* was developed in May 2006 and will be implemented from 1 July 2006. The new Reporting Proforma expands on the type of data collected and now includes gender, referral type, hearing loss and management plan information.

Database development

The new *Otitis Media Screening Reporting Proforma* is being incorporated into CHIME, a common database currently used in the NSW Health system. The database is expected to be operational by March 2007.

2.3 Cochlear implant program

The cochlear implant program provides screening, pre-operative assessment, surgical implantation, post-operative assessment and habilitation for children and adults with permanent bilateral sensory-neural hearing loss.

Historically, the program was provided by the Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre (formerly the Children and Adult Cochlear Implant Centre) in collaboration with The Children's Hospital at Westmead and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. With enhancements from NSW Health in 2002, the Program now operates through collaborative partnerships between the Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre, The

Children's Hospital at Westmead, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, the Shepherd Centre, and Sydney Children's Hospital.

2004/2005 Activity Levels

According to FLOWINFO V 6.0, the following number of procedures was performed in the NSW public health system during 2004/2005:

Hospital	Number of procedures performed
<i>Children's Hospital Westmead</i>	38
<i>Sydney Children's Hospital</i>	6
<i>Royal Prince Alfred Hospital</i>	43
<i>St. Vincent's Hospital</i>	6
<i>Westmead</i>	6

Proposed Service Enhancements

NSW Health is currently considering how best to apply additional funding to meet the demand for this service into the future.

Report on the Projected Demand for Cochlear Implant Services in NSW

In April 2005, the NSW Department of Health engaged the Centre for Health Service Development, University of Wollongong, to undertake a review of demand, supply and costings of cochlear implantation in NSW to the year 2008. The study was conducted by Dr Gary Eckstein and Mr Malcolm Masso.

The *Terms of Reference* for the consultancy were:

- To report on any variations in demand for paediatric and adult cochlear implantations in NSW (since 2001), and their associated reasons.
- To report on any variations in costs for paediatric and adult cochlear implantations in NSW (since 2001), and their associated reasons.
- To report on the current supply of cochlear implants in NSW hospitals.
- To report specifically on the impact of SWISH on the demand for paediatric cochlear implants in NSW.
- To project demand for cochlear implants based on the prevalence of profound hearing loss and current implantation rates – to the year 2008.

The draft Report *Projected Demand for Cochlear Implant Services in NSW* was completed and submitted to the NSW Department of Health in June 2005.

Key issues from the draft Report were considered by the MSC-H and incorporated into the key priorities for 2006-2008.

MSC-H KEY PRIORITIES 2006 – 2008

The Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing will continue to provide strategic advice to the Minister for Health on matters relating to hearing services in NSW in accordance with its *Terms of Reference*.

As noted previously, the Joint Workshop of the Adult Services and Family Support Working Groups to develop the key recommendations for hearing services in NSW was held on 6 July 2006 (post the 2005-2006 financial reporting period). For the purposes of this Report, the final *MSC-H Key Priorities* for 2006-2008 developed at the Workshop and later endorsed by both the Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing and the Minister are presented below.

Key priorities for cochlear implants were developed separately at a meeting of the Cochlear Implant Sub-Committee on 1 June 2006 and were later included and endorsed as part of the MSC-H Key Priorities.

For 2006-2008, the Ministerial Standing Committee will focus its attention on the following key priority areas for hearing services in NSW and cochlear implants:

Hearing services:

1. *Establishment of a State-wide Infant Screening-Hearing (SWISH) Database*
2. *Data standards and definitions for client data collection*
3. *Aids and equipment costs/support funding (Federal government issues)*
4. *Hearing health coordination/policy (Hearing Health Network)*
5. *Service delivery and standards*

Cochlear implants:

1. *Funding*
2. *Service delivery*
3. *Information and education*
4. *Federal government issues (cost of implant maintenance).*

Appendix 1

Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing membership

The Hon Peter Anderson <i>Chair</i> (part year) (resigned 6 Feb 06)	Former NSW Minister for Health; former Board Member, Wentworth Area Health Service; Board Member, The Children's Hospital at Westmead; former Chair, Greater Western Sydney Health Services Group- Western Quadrangle
Ms Sue West <i>Acting Chair</i> (part year - Feb 06-June 06)	Former Senator; former Board Member, Mid Western Area Health Service; daughter of a deaf parent
Ms Leanne Wallace	Delegate of Director-General, NSW Health; Director, Primary Health and Community Partnerships Branch, NSW Department of Health
Professor William Gibson	Professor of Otolaryngology/Head of Department Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
Mr Martyn Jones (resigned 13 Feb 06)	General Manager The Shepherd Centre
Professor Greg Leigh	Chair, The Renwick Centre for Professional Education & Research, Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children/The University of Newcastle
Ms Barbara Nudd	Senior Audiologist, Gosford Hospital Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service
Ms Robyn Phillips	Coordinator, Otitis Media Program North Coast Area Health Service
Dr Tony Pun	Ethnic Communities Council
Ms Alison Purcell	Speech Pathologist/Lecturer Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney
Ms Sue Rayner	Parent of a deaf child
Mr Chris Rehn	General Manager Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre
Ms Susan Richards (resigned 15 June 06)	Parent of a deaf child
Mr John Searl	Delegate of Australian Government Minister for Health; Director, Client Services Office of Hearing Services Department of Health and Ageing
Mr Brian Smyth-King	Delegate of Minister for Education and Training; Director, Disability Programs NSW Department of Education and Training

Appendix 2

Cochlear Implant Sub-Committee membership

Ms Susan Richards
Chair (resigned 15 June 06)
 Parent of a deaf child

Mr Chris Rehn
 Manager
 Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre

Ms Leanne Wallace
 Director; Primary Health and Community
 Partnerships Branch, NSW Department of
 Health

Professor Bill Gibson
 Professor of ENT Surgery
 Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Dr Catherine Birman
 ENT Surgeon
 The Children's Hospital at Westmead

Ms Jenny Smith
 CNC Orthopaedics
 Nepean Hospital

Ms Diane Gill
 Executive Director
 Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Dr Patricia Mutton
 Department Head
 Deafness Centre
 The Children's Hospital at Westmead

Dr Steevie Chan
 Manager, Clinical Services Planning
 NSW Department of Health

Professor Philip Newall
 Professor of Audiology
 Department of Linguistics
 Macquarie University

Dr Philip Chang
 St Vincent's Hospital

Dr Nigel Biggs
 ENT Surgeon
 St Vincent's Hospital

Dr Melville Da Cruz
 Senior Lecturer in Surgery
 University of Sydney
 Westmead Hospital

Dr John Berryman
 Chief Executive Officer
 Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children

Mr John Dent
 Senior Services Planner
 Sydney West Area Health Service

Mr Martyn Jones
 General Manager
 The Shepherd Centre

Ms Maree Doble
 Cochlear Implant Program Coordinator
 The Shepherd Centre

Mr Rob McLeod
 Community Participant
 Greater Metropolitan Clinical Taskforce

Ms Sharan Westcott
 Clinical Manager
 Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre

Mr Steve Pascoe
 Community Participant
 Greater Metropolitan Clinical Taskforce

Professor Greg Leigh
 Chair, The Renwick Centre for Professional
 Development & Research, Royal Institute for
 Deaf and Blind Children/The University of
 Newcastle

Appendix 2.1

Children's Cochlear Working Group membership

Ms Susan Richards
Chair (resigned 15 June 06)
Cochlear Implant Sub-Committee

Dr Catherine Birman
ENT Surgeon
The Children's Hospital at Westmead

Mr Chris Rehn
Manager
Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre

Professor Bill Gibson
Professor of ENT Surgery
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Professor Greg Leigh
Chair, The Renwick Centre for Professional Education & Research
Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children/The University of Newcastle

Ms Marie Doble
Cochlear Implant Program Coordinator
The Shepherd Centre

Mr Martyn Jones (resigned 13 Feb 06)
General Manager
The Shepherd Centre

Dr Patricia Mutton
Department Head
Deafness Centre
The Children's Hospital at Westmead

Dr Phillip Chang
ENT Surgeon
St Vincent's Hospital

Mr John Berryman
Chief Executive Officer
Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children

Appendix 2.2

Adult Cochlear Working Group membership

Dr Catherine Birman
ENT Surgeon
The Children's Hospital at Westmead

Mr Chris Rehn
Manager
Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre

Professor Bill Gibson
Professor of ENT Surgery
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Dr Melville Da Cruz
Senior Lecturer in Surgery
University of Sydney
Westmead Hospital

Mr Steve Pascoe
Community Participant
Greater Metropolitan Clinical Taskforce

Appendix 3

Family Support Working Group membership

Ms Sue Rayner

(Chair)

Parent of a deaf child

Professor Greg Leigh

Chair, The Renwick Centre for Professional Education & Research

Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children/The University of Newcastle

Ms Margaret Dewberry

Executive Manager

Community Service Obligations

Australian Hearing

Ms Leigh-Erin Radford (resigned Nov 05)

SWISH State-wide Coordinator

NSW Department of Health

Dr Patricia Mutton

Department Head

Deafness Centre

The Children's Hospital at Westmead

Dr David Starte

Senior Staff Specialist in Developmental Paediatrics

Hearing Support Service, Sydney Children's Hospital;

Service Director

Chatswood Assessment Centre

Ms Anne Porter

Aussie Deaf Kids

Ms Sandra Carroll

Senior Development Officer

Deaf Society of NSW

Ms Heidi Taylor

Hearing Support Social Worker

Sydney Children's Hospital

Ms Linda Wilson

Parent Council for Deaf Education

Mr Geoff Muir

Assistant Chief Executive (Educational Services)

NSW Department of Education and Training

Ms Robin Birchell

Itinerant Support Teacher-Profound Deafness

Disability Programs, NSW Department of Education and Training

Appendix 4

Adult Services Working Group membership

Ms Sue West
(Chair)
Daughter of a deaf parent

Ms Margaret Colebrook
Chair
Let Us Hear Committee
Deafness Council of NSW

Dr Jenny Rosen
Head, Department of Audiology
Hornsby Kuring-gai Health Service

Ms Irene Truscott
President
Deafness Council of NSW

Mr Bill Hick
Deafness Forum

Mr Andrew Stewart
Consumer

Ms Linda Wilson
Consumer

Ms Mary Caruana
Consumer;
Member, Let Us Hear Committee
Deafness Council of NSW

Ms Sue Rayner
Consumer;
Parent of a deaf child;
Chair, Family Support Services Working Group

Appendix 5

Data Working Group membership

Ms Leanne Wallace

(Chair)

Director, Primary Health and Community Partnerships Branch
NSW Department of Health

Mr Martyn Jones (resigned 13 Feb 06)

General Manager

The Shepherd Centre

Professor Greg Leigh

Chair, The Renwick Centre for Professional Education & Research

Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children/The University of Newcastle

Ms Barbara Nudd

Audiologist, Gosford Hospital

Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service

Ms Margaret Dewberry

Executive Manager

Community Service Obligations

Australian Hearing

Ms Leigh-Erin Radford (resigned Nov 05)

SWISH State-wide Coordinator

NSW Department of Health

Appendix 6

STATEWIDE INFANT SCREENING - HEARING (SWISH) PROGRAM STATISTICS (JULY 2005 TO JUNE 2006) CORRECTED FOR MONTH OF BIRTH										
AHS	Livebirths	Died prior to screen*	Number Screened	Declined Screen	Number Unscreened	% Screened	% Declined	% Unscreened	Number Bilat. Refer and Direct Refer #	Rate Bilat. Refer (per 1,000 births)
NSCCAHS	15499	37	15324	20	118	98.87	0.13	0.76	33	2.1
GWAHS	3916	15	3864	12	25	98.67	0.31	0.64	14	3.6
GSAHS	4581	0/NR	4341	18	222	94.76	0.39	4.85	26	5.7
HNEAHS	10544	47	10321	32	144	97.89	0.30	1.37	36	3.4
SESIAHS	16487	14	16351	37	85	99.18	0.22	0.52	52	3.2
NCAHS	5623	6	5488	55	74	97.60	0.98	1.32	17	3.0
SSWAHS	17461	54	17277	19	111	98.95	0.11	0.64	63	3.6
SWAHS	17627	96	17350	39	142	98.43	0.22	0.81	87	4.9
Total	91738	269	90316	232	921	98.45	0.25	1.00	328	3.6

*NR = not reported, as some AHSs are unable to report neonatal deaths.

= These figures includes infants who were referred directly to diagnostic audiology services due to exclusion factors for AABR screening

Jul 05 to Jun 06

Total Number of Babies Screened	90,316
Number of Babies Referred to Diagnostic Audiology for Bilateral Refer	328
Number of Babies Diagnosed with permanent bilateral significant hearing loss	81
True Positive Rate #	25%
Identification Rate per 1,000 births	0.88

Appendix 7

POPULATION & OTITIS MEDIA SCREENING TARGETS FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN 0-6 YRS					
2005/06 SCREENING					
Area Health Services	Population	Target 2005/06	Actual 2005/06	Target 2005/06	Actual 2005/06
Greater Western	4302	70%	69%	3011	2964
Hunter New England	4354	70%	36%	3048	1550
North Coast	3427	70%	77%	2399	2648
Northern Sydney Central Coast	1091	70%	54%	764	587
South East Sydney Illawarra	2251	70%	74%	1576	1673
Greater Southern	2305	70%	93%	1614	2147
Sydney South West	2365	70%	31%	1656	726
Sydney West	2722	70%	25%	1905	676
Totals	22817	70%	57%	15,973	
Total Number screened					12,971

2006/07 SCREENING TARGETS

Area Health Services	Population	Target %	Target number
Greater Western	4302	85%	3657
Hunter New England	4354	85%	3701
North Coast	3427	85%	2913
Northern Sydney Central Coast	1091	85%	927
South East Sydney Illawarra	2251	85%	1913
Greater Southern	2305	85%	1959
Sydney South West	2365	85%	2010
Sydney West	2722	85%	2314
Total	22817	85%	19394