

**DESCRIPTION**

*Women and Birth* is the official journal of the Australian College of Midwives (ACM). It is a midwifery journal that publishes on all matters that affect women and birth, from pre-conceptual counselling, through pregnancy, birth, and the first six weeks postnatal. All papers accepted will draw from and contribute to the relevant contemporary research, policy and/or theoretical literature. We seek research papers, quality assurances papers (with ethical approval) discussion papers, clinical practice papers, case studies and original literature reviews.

Our women-centred focus is inclusive of the family, fetus and newborn, both well and sick, and covers both healthy and complex pregnancies and births. The journal seeks papers that take a woman-centred focus on maternity services, epidemiology, primary health care, reproductive psycho/physiology, midwifery practice, theory, research, education, management and leadership. We also seek relevant papers on maternal mental health and neonatal well-being, natural and complementary therapies, local, national and international policy, management, politics, economics and societal and cultural issues as they affect childbearing women and their families. Topics may include, where appropriate, neonatal care, child and family health, womens health, related to pregnancy, birth and the postpartum, including lactation. Interprofessional papers relevant to midwifery are welcome. Articles are double blind peer-reviewed, primarily by experts in the field of the submitted work.

The journal is indexed in PubMed, MEDLINE, Thomson Reuters, Scopus and CINAHL.

The journal is available online to ACM members and is available by separate subscription.

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• Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
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First time authors are strongly advised to co-author with an academic supervisor or senior colleague who has been successful in writing for publication. Articles submitted for review must be original works, and may not be submitted for review elsewhere whilst under review for the Journal. If a related article, based on the same work, has been submitted or published elsewhere, it must be acknowledged in the cover letter to the editor, added to the end of the cover letter, and referenced in the manuscript.

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Observational cohort, case control and cross sectional studies - STROBE - Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology STROBE Checklist


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- The date of approval

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• Methods
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In the introduction, create a table using the following headings to summaries (in 100 words or less) the contribution of your paper to the existing literature:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Problem or Issue</th>
<th>What is Already Known</th>
<th>What this Paper Adds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Example of Statement of Significance**

**Problem**
Poor assessment and clinical reasoning are major contributors to adverse birth outcomes.

**What is Already Known**
Midwifery decision-making during birth is mediated by hierarchies of surveillance and control. Midwives are often unable to implement their preferred decision. The international and national professional decision-making frameworks are not sufficiently detailed to guide midwives’ clinical reasoning.

**What this Paper Adds**
Evidence that half of the midwives interviewed did not use clinical reasoning to make decisions. A new and detailed model of midwifery clinical reasoning which incorporates a role for intuition.

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- **Participants, Ethics and Methods** (described in detail).
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- **Conclusion** (summarise key points and make recommendations)
- **Acknowledgments and Disclosures**

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This section is compulsory. Grants, financial support and technical or other assistance are acknowledged at the end of the text before the references. *All financial support for the project must be acknowledged. If there has been no financial assistance with the project, this must be clearly stated.*
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