

Title:

PLENARY 1: Of Kangaroos, Koalas, and Platypi

Keywords:

Australia, Midwifery and Nursing

Summary:

This presentation will provide an overview of the development of nursing in Australia with a focus on the role of leadership and the development of nursing and midwifery research in the Australian context.

Abstract Text:

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Australia has a relatively short European history with nursing coming to the colony in the 1800s. Since then the profession has gradually developed and changed in response to the environment within which nursing is practiced. Australia has some challenges associated with its geography and relative isolation from the world. This presentation will consider the developments in nursing over its history in Australia, the role of leaders in those developments and the lessons that can be learned. Within this context consideration of the development of nursing and midwifery research and the impact on changes in the profession will be covered. The relationship with the service delivery sector and the embedding of research into the service sector will also be considered. Just as Australia has some unique fauna that reflect the country and its location the contribution and innovations of some nurses have also provided exemplars for the rest of the world.

References:

None.

Content Outline:

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Professional Experience: During the course of her career, Debra has gained experience in a broad range of settings prior to her appointment as the Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer in 2015. Debra has maintained strong links with the education sector especially through her appointment as an Adjunct Professor with the University of Technology, Sydney.

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