OF KANGAROOS, KOALAS AND PLATYPI

Adjunct Professor Debra Thoms
Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer
Australian Government
EUROPEAN ARRIVAL

• Spread across Australia
• Over 200 different languages
• Hunter gatherers
• Strong relationship to land and environment
EXPLORATION

- 1606 Willem Janszoon
- 1616 Dirk Hartog
- 1642 Abel Tasman
- 1770 Captain James Cook
COLONISATION
FEDERATION

Sir Henry Parkes
AUSTRALIA’S GOVERNMENT
AUSTRALIA’S HEALTH

Australia’s health 2018
HEALTH COSTS

Source: AIHW: Health expenditure Australia 2013–14
AUSTRALIA’S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

- Higher than OECD average for caesarean section rates and a 3 fold variation in selected women aged 20-34 years

- Third and fourth degree perineal tears – 12 fold variation

- Hysterectomy rate is one of the highest in the OECD
MEDICARE

• Universal health scheme

• Medical Benefits Scheme:
  • Primary health care
  • Some allied health
  • Some optometry
  • Selected diagnostic and imaging tests

• Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
  • Subsidised medicines
HEALTH INITIATIVES

• Health Care Homes

• Mental health care

• Aged Care

• My Health Record

• Research
INDIGENOUS HEALTH

- Significant decline (33%) in the mortality rate of children 0-4 years (1998-2015)

- Low birthweight rate declined by 13% (2000-2014) for babies born to Indigenous mothers
CLOSING THE GAP

• life expectancy
• child mortality
• in early childhood education
• reading, writing and numeracy
• year 12 attainment
• employment
• school attendance
NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

Lucy Osburn

Sydney Hospital
## KEY MILESTONES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1970s</td>
<td>Diploma programs established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973 - 1975</td>
<td>Working party and development of Goals in Nursing Education Part 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Sax Report recommends transfer of nursing education to tertiary sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Legislation enabled transfer to University based education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>First Nurse Practitioner endorsed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Senate Committee recommends appoint Commonwealth Chief Nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Commonwealth CNMO appointed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008/9</td>
<td>Access to MBS and PBS for NPs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>National Registration and Accreditation Scheme</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NURSING AND MIDWIFERY TODAY

TOMORROW'S NURSE

TERESA HOLLOWAY
# NURSES AND MIDWIVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled Nurse (EN)</td>
<td>62,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurse (RN) <strong>(incl 1674 Nurse Practitioners)</strong></td>
<td>289,616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN &amp; RN</td>
<td>7,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwife (RM)</td>
<td>5,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse &amp; Midwife</td>
<td>27,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non practising Nurses &amp; Midwives</td>
<td>5697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Nurses &amp; Midwives</td>
<td>398,530</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NURSING & MIDWIFERY IN AUSTRALIA – THE FUTURE
ADVANCED PRACTICE
PREScribing

• Enhancing access to medicines
• Improved patient experience
• Efficiency & cost effectiveness
• Workforce flexibility
• Hospital avoidance
The Bega Teen Clinic: improving access to care and health education for young people in rural towns.
AVAILABILITY AND EASY TO REACH SERVICES
POP-UP HOMELESS HEALTHCARE CLINICS
KANGAROOS
KANGAROO MOTHER CARE

• Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) fosters health and well being by promoting effective thermal control, breastfeeding, infection prevention and bonding.
• Skin to skin
• Exclusive breastfeeding
KOALAS
PLATYPUS

Echidna

Platypus
FUTURE POTENTIAL

- Type 2 diabetes
- Antimicrobial resistance