Assessment of Fetal Wellbeing for Midwifery Practice

(MIDW805)

Pathways, programmes/specialisations the paper is attached to
Postgraduate Certificate in Health Science, Postgraduate Diploma in Health Science, Master of Health Practice and Master of Health Science in the specialisation area of Midwifery

Am I eligible to enrol in this paper?
This paper is for Registered Midwives.

What is this paper about?
Expands midwifery expertise in relation to assessment of fetal growth and wellbeing through examination, critique and reflection on the literature and research and its application to midwifery practice.

What can I expect to learn?
- Recognition of risk factors for fetal growth restriction
- Identifying and assessing satisfactory or poor fetal growth / well being
- Reliability of fetal movement and fetal heart assessments as signs of fetal wellbeing
- Physiology/pathophysiology that leads to fetal growth restriction
- Prognosis and long term consequences of fetal growth restriction
- Tools for monitoring fetal growth and wellbeing; evidence for use, value of, and application in practice:
  - Fundal height measurement
  - Abdominal palpation assessment of growth, estimated fetal size and liquor volume
  - Using percentile charts
  - Customised growth charts
  - Ultrasound scans
  - Doppler studies
- Interpreting results of assessment and monitoring of fetal growth and wellbeing
- “GROW”; the programme, its application to midwifery practice

How is this paper taught?
Location: Online
Teaching Period: Offered in Semester 2 only
Block Course: No. Entirely online
Teaching Style: Central teaching and learning strategies include scenario based discussion and exploration using electronic discussion board entries to develop the scenario over the course of the paper. There will be a lecturer facilitated group exploration of each issue to which each student will contribute.

The paper is available nationally by using blended learning strategies including electronic delivery methods, e.g. AUTonline resources, desktop tutorials through Skype, Scopia, podcasts, and audio enhanced PowerPoint presentations, etc.

How will I be assessed?
1. Essay (3000 words)

Who will be teaching me?
Paper Coordinator: Joyce Cowan, RN, RM, MHSc. (Hons), DHSc. Candidate
Joyce is a senior lecturer in the undergraduate and postgraduate programme and has a background in hospital and case loading midwifery. She has been actively involved in promoting awareness of preeclampsia since setting up New Zealand
Action on Preeclampsia (NZAPEC) in 1995. In her role as director of NZAPEC Joyce facilitates annual study days on preeclampsia and fetal growth restriction for midwives and doctors and publishes newsletters updating members on current research. She has been appointed by the UK Perinatal Institute as educator for the GAP (growth assessment protocol) programme in New Zealand.

Fees
Information about paper tuition fee for papers may be found at:
http://www.aut.ac.nz/study-at-aut/fees-scholarships-and-finance/fees/postgraduate-fees

Enrolment and enquires
Please contact Debra Spinetto for any enquiries about enrolment. Further information about our postgraduate offerings may be found online.