

In this issue:

Open House Celebration
Baby-Friendly Banter
Mini Quiz: Test Yourself
Data-Byte
Continuing Education
Coder Tips
News about Documentation

MARCH 2014 NEWSLETTER

RCP has turned 40 and the Rh program is celebrating its 50th Anniversary!

The Reproductive Care Program of Nova Scotia (RCP) and the Rh Program of Nova Scotia are both marking significant anniversaries. This year, the RCP marked 40 years as a provincial program while the Rh Program entered its 50th year.

Please join us as we celebrate the history and the future of these amazing programs.

Open House

Friday, April 11th, 6:30-10:00am, Parker Reception Room, IWK Health Centre, Halifax

Come and view tabletop displays, RCP & Rh timeline, special performance by the IWK choir, contests, prizes and so much more. Refreshments will be available.



Baby-Friendly Banter

Nova Scotia is a province that understands the significance of protecting, promoting, and supporting breastfeeding.

We have a history of being innovative in our approach to optimizing the experience and health outcomes of women who are breastfeeding. For instance, Nova Scotia was the second province in Canada to develop and adopt a provincial breastfeeding policy way back in 2005. A more recent accomplishment is the creation of a provincial **Baby-Friendly Initiative** Coordinator position at the Department of Health and Wellness. The coordinator can support efforts at the provincial, District Health Authority, and community level to implement steps that enhance the experience of women and their families.

As the coordinator in this position, I shall be working closely with RCP, many other partners, and you. The Baby-Friendly Initiative is about more than breastfeeding.

- It is about **best practices** in maternity services in the acute care system and in the community.
- It is **inclusive** of all mothers and infants regardless of feeding choice.



- It **clarifies** the minimum standard required for maternity services.

Each of us, regardless of how or where we connect with women and families, has a part to play.

In this newsletter, we have the chance to share and showcase the tremendous work – both trials and triumphs – that is occurring across Nova Scotia regarding the Baby-Friendly Initiative, in the community, in agencies, and provincially. We also have the chance to address how each of us can contribute to best practices in maternity services. The health and wellbeing of our families is something we all care about.

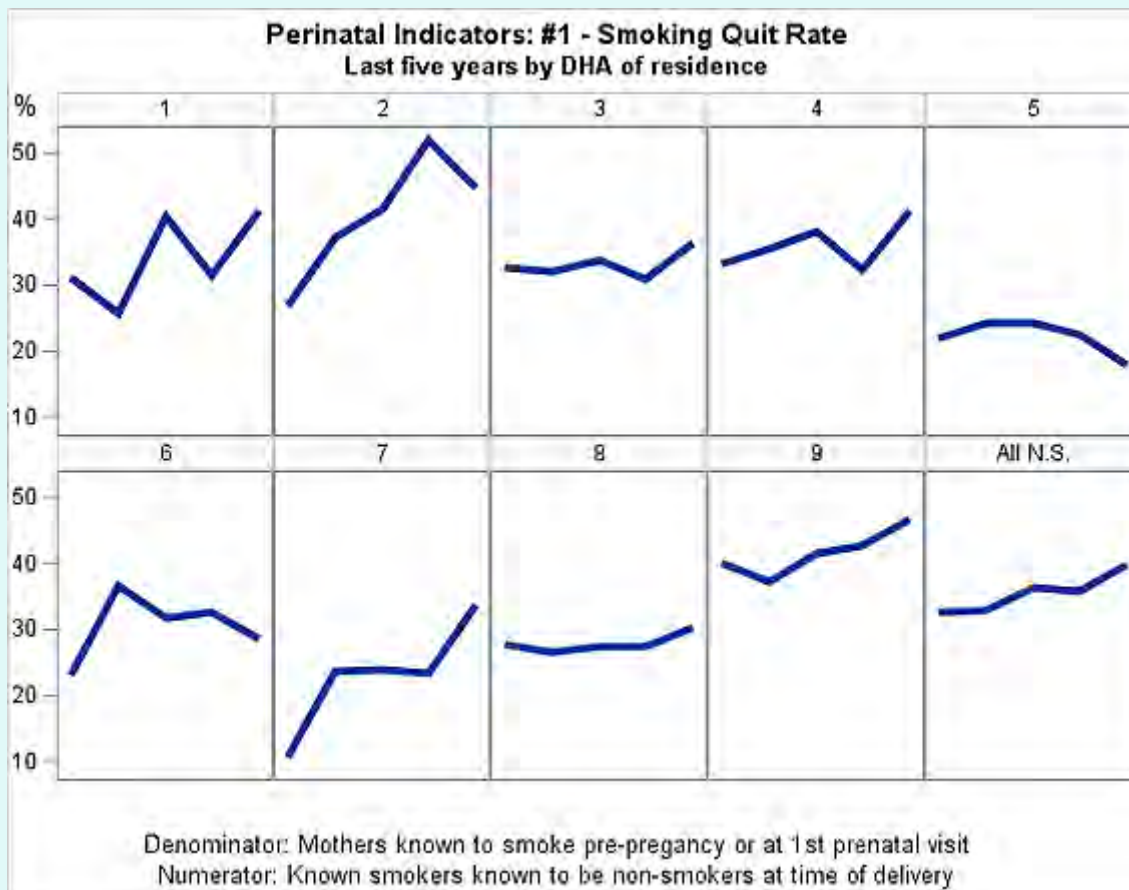
Anytime, feel free to call or email me with questions, suggestions, or perspectives that are on your mind about the Baby-Friendly Initiative. I am here to support you!

Betty Ann Robinson

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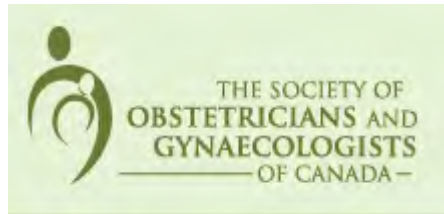
Data-Byte

Smoking during pregnancy is one of several indicators of Maternal and Fetal Health. Below is a look at the Maternal Smoking Quit Rates over the last five years.



Continuing Education

Advances in Labour and Risk Management Program



Recently The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) and The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) have announced that in July 2014 they will offer the Advances in Labour and Risk Management (ALARM) program together. This change will facilitate improved health outcomes for mothers and babies in Canada.

<http://sogc.org/events/advances-in-labour-and-risk-management/welcome/>

National Birth Defects Prevention Network 2014 Virtual Annual Meeting



The National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) will hold its 17th Annual Meeting using a virtual meeting format starting on February 26th. The sessions will be similar to previous years and will cover current issues in birth defects surveillance, research, and prevention.

<http://rcp.nshealth.ca/events/nbdpn-virtual-conference-2014>

Regional NRP Instructor Update

Friday, March 28, 2014, 9am–3:30pm
Parker Reception Room, IWK Health Centre
Contact: leeanne.lauzon@iwk.nshealth.ca

A final agenda has not yet been set, but will include the following topics:

- Discussion: How have the changes introduced in Version 6 affected your teaching?
- NRP teaching and practice outside the Birth Unit/hospital setting (i.e. NRP within the scope of paramedicine)
- Giving effective feedback
- Debriefing
- Approaches to simulation (all levels of fidelity)
- Use of moulage

Coder Tips

As they say, "The only constant is change!" Times, or more correctly technology, has been changing and many of you are working with various methods to review patient documentation in the process of data collection. There are now Coding Specialists working from home, working on site with scanned documents, and others working toward the scanned environment but still using paper documents.

As we all work through the various phases of data collection, it is important to keep each other informed about changes. RCP has been working with HITS-NS to make this transition as seamless as possible. So, this is a great forum for sharing information. If you have any questions about coding, data collection, or tips in general, please send them along and we will make sure they go to print!



News about Documentation

The New Prenatal Record forms are now available! There have been improvements made in the layout/design of forms 1 and 2. Please order new prenatal records by calling 902-470-6798 or emailing RCP@iwk.nshealth.ca the RCP office. They can also be ordered using the link on our website.: <http://rcp.nshealth.ca/chart-prenatal-forms>

Our Mission

Working with Nova Scotia hospital and community-based health professionals to promote excellence in reproductive, perinatal and newborn health. Read more here: <http://rcp.nshealth.ca/about>

- Leadership and support
- Guidelines and standards
- Education
- Data collection and analysis

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