

MHPN WEBINAR

Thursday, 12 May 2022

An interdisciplinary approach to perinatal anxiety and depression

Tonight's panel



Nia Ellis Mum with Lived Experience



Dr Nicole Hall General Practitioner



Rosemarie Vary
Enhanced Maternal Child
Health Nurse



Dr Nicole Highet Psychologist



Facilitator: Prof. Stephen Trumble General Practitioner



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Learning outcomes

Through an exploration of perinatal anxiety and depression the webinar will provide participants with the opportunity to:

- Discuss biological, social and environmental factors that increase the risk of developing perinatal anxiety and depression, including associated stigma.
- Discuss screening, identification, assessment and diagnosis of perinatal anxiety and depression.
- Evaluate the recommended therapeutic approaches that have proven successful in the treatment of perinatal anxiety and depression.
- Outline the importance of collaboration and appropriate referrals when providing care to women experiencing and living with perinatal anxiety and depression.



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Mum with Lived Experience's perspective

Why can't I be like other mums?

Being a mother is a one size fits all. If you don't fit into that category, you are failing.

"Out of my depth trying to keep a baby and myself alive. Crying all the time and felt hopeless as a mother. Everyone else made it look so easy ... I was so embarrassed."

Questions that could have helped me

- · What is your daily routine?
- Who do you chat to during the day?
- When did you sleep for longer than two hours?
- Show me some pictures of your baby and your family.





Mum with Lived Experience's perspective

I am not good enough.

I had various excuses to justify why I felt like this.

I would tell myself ... if I had a good night's sleep, I'd be fine.

- I just needed time to adjust.
- My baby is healthy, don't complain.

Crying constantly, hated leaving the house and having a baby was the worst thing that had ever happened to me.





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Mum with Lived Experience's perspective

Why did I lie about how I was feeling?

- Put simply, embarrassment and shame.
- I wasn't coping and asking for help when I was at my most vulnerable was the hardest thing to do.





Mum with Lived Experience's perspective What made me seek help? Questions that could have been asked When was the last time you felt happy? What makes you happy? Tell me about your family? Who lives with you? What is your daily routine?

General Practitioner's perspective

Let's think about Jade

Friend Sister Daughter

Partner Mother

General Practitioner's perspective

Acknowledgement of feelings

- LISTEN!!
- People are often looking for someone to listen and empathise, not necessarily expecting a solution to everything.
- Sharing my personal experience of my difficulties of being a new Mum conflict between expectation and reality.
- Social media creating false expectations- people only posting 'good' aspects of parenting.
- Reality of prevalence of post natal anxiety and depression.



Dr Nicole Hall



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General Practitioner's perspective

Assessment

- Suicidal thoughts? Psychotic symptoms?
- Edinburgh Postnatal depression scale, assessing maternal-infant interaction serial measurements.
- Previous anxiety/depression important not to stop medications in pregnancy as risk of relapse/worsening symptoms is high.



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General Practitioner's perspective

Management tips

- Exploration of who Jade really is what is she passionate about, what does she enjoy
- 30 mins 2x weekly of activity you enjoy (protected time)
- Writing down 1 good thing every day that happens
- Weekly visits

- Still her own person! Not just a Mum!
- Partner do 1 night of overnight feeds per week
- 1 new thing to try for e.g. sleeping/settling
- Remind them they are doing a brilliant job!
- Medication safe to use



or Nicole Ha



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General Practitioner's perspective

Referrals

- Weekly or fortnightly visits with GP
- Transition to perinatal psychologist private/public
- Online resources COPE/PANDA
- · My door is always open



Dr Nicole Ha



Enhanced Maternal Child Health Nurse's perspective

Identify Jades challenges - What is seen

- History of mental health including anxiety and poor body imagine.
- Vulnerability in forming professional trusting relationships.
- · Fear and doubt.
- Communication with partner.
- · Post birth sleeping challenges.
- Failed expectations.



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Enhanced Maternal Child Health Nurse's perspective

What is hidden

"Problems cannot be solved with the same mindset that created them." (Albert Einstein.)

- Understand the Iceberg model of care (Tweddle child and family health service, Sleep and Settling Model of Care Workbook, 2021).
- The solution to a problem is only evident if you truly understand the problem.



Jade's behaviors maybe as a result of deep underlying cognitive structures



Rosemarie Var



Enhanced Maternal Child Health Nurse's perspective

Interviewing tips - Gaining an understanding

- Sit down together.
- Ask questions often and early.
- The way you ask the questions may influence the answers closed or opened ended questions.
- Listen without interrupting much.
- Avoid nonverbal cues that show disapproval or disinterest.
- · Give Jade permission to have unpleasant feelings.





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Enhanced Maternal Child Health Nurse's perspective

Gaining a deeper understanding

- "When Oscar was born the challenges kept coming. He wasn't a good sleeper."
- Be empathetic and truthful "I can see this is difficult for you and I'm very proud to be working on this with you".
- Avoid comments that puts you in their shoes, as offering you own story is likely to make the other
 person feel that they are not being heard or may reflect your needs more than theirs.
- Use assessment forms to aid with communication: eg Edinburg Post-natal depression score. Sleep pathways forms are available at Tweddle EPC. Brigance screening tool.
- Ensure you can offer support before completing assessments.





Enhanced Maternal Child Health Nurse's perspective

Take home message: Implement an Infant mental health perspective

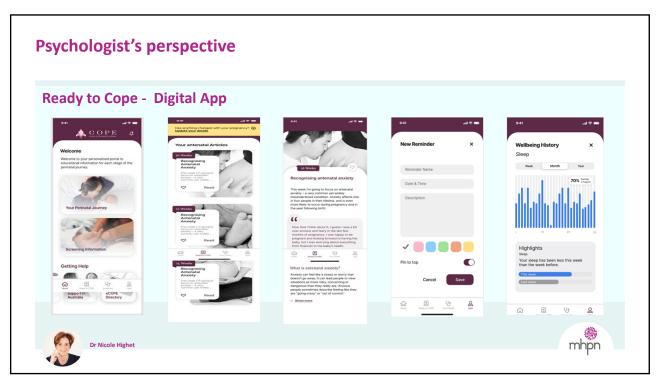
- "My greatest reward is educating parents to look at their environment through their child's lens".
- Take every opportunity in supporting the parent to begin the journey of emotional intelligence with their child.
- Instill calmness. Mothers will be reassured by the calm, caring, gentle and confident demeanour of the nurse.
- Finally, remember you have been given the privilege to support a change to better health.



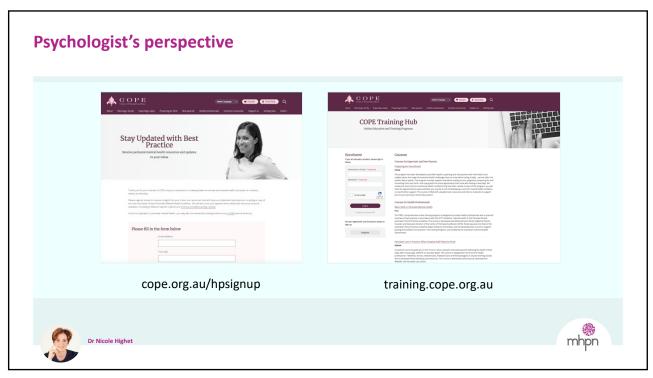


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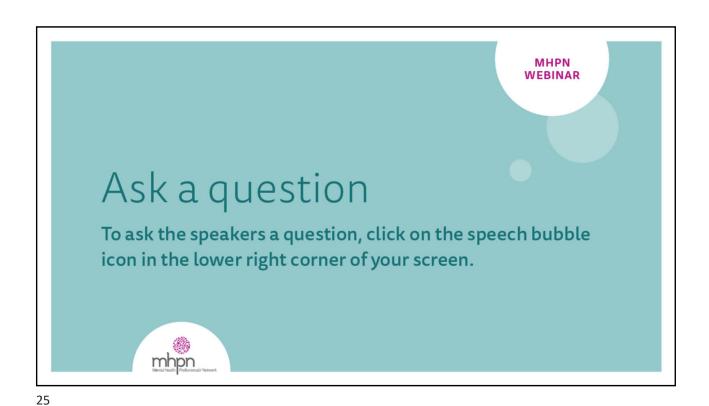
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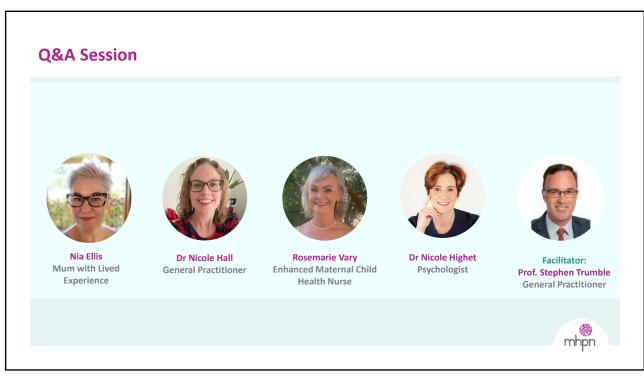












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MHPN Online programs

Podcasts:

- Episodes released fortnightly on MHPN Presents.
- Agree to Disagree? A Conversation on 'Common Features of Psychotherapy' was released yesterday. Listen on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or MHPN's website.

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Assessing functional capacity to work for psychological injuries – Thursday 19th May 2020

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