

APPENDIX A

SURVEY LETTER

Name
Title
Organisation
Address1
Address2
Town
State Postcode

Dear Dr Taylor

RE: IDENTIFICATION AND CRITICAL ASSESSMENT OF MATERNITY SERVICES INFORMATION SYSTEMS

With the introduction of performance indicators and an increasing awareness of the importance of internal clinical monitoring and quality control, the collection, storage, access and distribution of information has become vital throughout the health sector. Within this context the Data Sub-committee of the Maternity Services Advisory Committee to the Department of Human Services Victoria was convened to identify the information requirements of maternity services and the capacity of existing systems to provide the range of data to accurately measure performance and monitor trends.

The sub-committee's terms of reference include:

- Identification and review of data requirements of service providers;
- Identification and review of the data requirements of central collections/agencies;
- Identification of existing Victorian hospital data collection and hospital perinatal information systems;
- A comparison and appraisal of the various data and information systems; and
- An analysis of the extent to which these systems meet the needs of the key stakeholders.

A range of activities have been undertaken by the Data Sub-Committee in conjunction with the Department of Human Services to address these terms of reference. A functional specification identifying the data requirements and information needs of key stakeholders has been completed and an inventory of known systems operating in Victoria has been formulated.

In order to be able to undertake a comprehensive comparison and appraisal of a range of information systems suitable for Maternity Services in Victoria it is important that this inventory be expanded to include any other large or comprehensive systems that may be known or operational in other jurisdictions across Australia.

Accordingly, on behalf of the Data Sub-committee of the Maternity Services Advisory Committee to the Victorian Department of Human Services, I write to you asking for your assistance in completing this activity. In particular, we are seeking information that would enable our project team to:

1. Identify existing and suitable maternity information systems operating in your State/Territory that could be included in our appraisal process;

-2-

2. Identify relevant hospitals that could be approached to provide an alternate users perspective.

Could you please complete the attached form and return the relevant details via facsimile, email or post to Rita Brewerton of Health Outcomes International by close of business Thursday 24th October 2002. Rita's contact details are listed below:

Rita Brewerton
Health Outcomes International
PO Box 1038
KENT TOWN SA 5071
Phone: 088363 3699
Mobile: 0419 8331 40
Fax: 088 363 9011
Email: rita@hoi.com.au

Should you have any queries regarding this request please do not hesitate to contact either Ms Gil Dwyer of the Department of Human Services on 039 616 7079 or Rita Brewerton.

On behalf of the Data Sub-committee and the Department of Human Services Victoria, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Rita Brewerton
Director
Health Outcomes International
27 March 2003

REVIEW AND COMPARISON OF MATERNITY INFORMATION SYSTEMS

STATE/TERRITORY HEALTH DEPARTMENT: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

NOMINATED SITES:

HOSPITAL	CONTACT PERSON	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL

KNOWN MATERNITY INFORMATION SYSTEMS:

SYSTEM/VENDOR	CONTACT PERSON	TELEPHONE	FAX	EMAIL

PLEASE RESPOND BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS THURSDAY OCTOBER 24TH 2002 TO THE FOLLOWING:

HEALTH OUTCOMES INTERNATIONAL
PO Box 1038
KENT TOWN SA 5071
PH: 08 8363 3699
FAX: 08 8363 9011
EMAIL: rita@hoi.com.au or peter@hoi.com.au