The WISH Project is assisting Australian and New Zealand tertiary obstetric units to adopt recommendations from the Bi-National Clinical Practice Guidelines on Antenatal magnesium sulphate prior to preterm birth for neuroprotection of the fetus, infant and child.

The WISH Project aims to:

- Provide implementation strategies to hospitals.
- Monitor and improve uptake of the use of antenatal magnesium sulphate as a neuroprotective therapy immediately prior to imminent (within 24 hours), early preterm birth (less than 30 weeks gestation).
- Reduce the risk of very preterm babies dying or having cerebral palsy.

WISH NEWS

Calls for Hospitals to Implement Cerebral Palsy Guidelines

During the FAOPS and PSANZ Annual Congress, held in Sydney from 18 - 21 March 2012, leading obstetric and neonatal specialists, including Macquarie Group Foundation Chair of Cerebral Palsy, Professor Nadia Badawi, called on Australian hospitals to implement the antenatal magnesium sulphate clinical practice guidelines for cerebral palsy prevention.

“Every year in Australia, over 1500 women give birth to very premature babies, between 22 and 30 weeks’ gestation. 15% of these babies are at risk of dying in the first weeks of life or later having cerebral palsy.”

“The good news is that by giving mothers magnesium sulphate immediately prior to a very premature birth the chances of the baby surviving, and not having cerebral palsy are increased.”

PTO for more news from the FAOPS & PSANZ Congress 2012

WISH AUDIT OF UPTAKE

The following hospitals are participating in the WISH audit of uptake:
- Women’s and Children’s Hospital, SA
- Royal North Shore Hospital, NSW
- Mater Mothers’ Hospital, QLD

If you would like your hospital to participate in the WISH audit too, please contact: wish@adelaide.edu.au

The WISH Newsletter is designed for those involved in this project. We hope this publication will keep you up to date on current and upcoming activities, project changes, and progress. We welcome submissions from all involved in the project for inclusion in the newsletter.

Please submit to: wish@adelaide.edu.au
A number of presenters discussed topics related to the Antenatal Magnesium Sulphate Clinical Practice Guidelines, in a concurrent session titled ‘Magnesium’ on the 21st of March 2012.

Dr Thach Tran (The University of Adelaide): ‘Does administration of antenatal magnesium sulphate reduce cerebral palsy risk of preterm babies? A clinico-Bayesian interpretation.’ (A135)

Ms Tanya Bubner (The University of Adelaide): ‘Enablers and barriers to the use of antenatal magnesium sulphate for fetal neuroprotection.’ (A136)

Dr Amber Kennedy (The Mercy Hospital for Women): ‘Feasibility of implementing magnesium sulphate for neuroprotection in a tertiary obstetric unit.’ (A137)

Dr Emer Heatley (The University of Adelaide): ‘Health practitioner knowledge and views regarding use of the antenatal magnesium sulphate for fetal neuroprotection clinical practice guidelines at WCH, Adelaide in 2011.’ (A138)

In a plenary session titled ‘Future directions for cerebral palsy’, Professor Nadia Badawi (The University of Sydney) discussed antenatal magnesium sulphate for neuroprotection in her presentation ‘Building a future on the past.’

Professor Lelia Duley (The University of Nottingham), in her presentation ‘Magnesium for neuroprotection’, detailed how the hypothesis of magnesium sulphate for fetal neuroprotection was developed and tested; the evidence to date; and the implications for clinical practice and for future research.

Abstracts can be found in the Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health Volume 48, Issue Supplement s1.

The WISH Project Online Questionnaire
The WISH Project Team has invited a contact at every centre to complete an online WISH Project Questionnaire to begin evaluation of the implementation of the clinical practice guidelines.

Your participation is greatly appreciated.
Thank you to everyone who has already completed this questionnaire!

Guideline Action Packs (GAPs)
Every tertiary maternity hospital in Australia and New Zealand was sent a number of active implementation tools in Guideline Action Packs (GAPs) in December 2011 or January 2012.

What tools are in the GAPs?
• PowerPoint presentation
• Information pamphlets for women
• Information pamphlets for health professionals
• Case note reminder inserts
• Implementation posters

Need more copies? Please contact us: wish@adelaide.edu.au

How do I locate the Clinical Practice Guideline for Antenatal Magnesium Sulphate for Neuroprotection?
You can find the Antenatal Magnesium Sulphate Clinical Practice Guidelines online at:

If you would like any further information about how the ‘Antenatal magnesium sulphate prior to preterm birth for neuroprotection of the fetus, infant and child: National clinical practice guidelines’ can be implemented at your hospital, or The WISH Project, please contact us: wish@adelaide.edu.au

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