

Australasian Lactation Courses

NEWSLETTER

Nov 2005

Welcome to our 2006 newsletter.

Who are we?

Jen Byrne and Ellen McIntyre have been conducting the Australasian Lactation Courses both internally and externally since 1989. We have had more than 2000 midwives, doctors, child health nurses and other health professionals undertake this course over this time.

Jen is a midwife and has conducted a private practice since 1986 both as a childbirth educator and lactation consultant. Jen has a masters degree and is currently undertaking a PhD. Jen is a lecturer in midwifery at Flinders University, Adelaide.

Ellen is a lactation consultant and an Australian Breastfeeding Association Counsellor. She is on the editorial review board for both Breastfeeding Review and the Journal of Human Lactation and is the chair of the International Lactation Education Accreditation Council. Ellen completed her PhD at Adelaide University looking at environmental barriers to breastfeeding. She is currently working on several breastfeeding projects and is a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of General Practice at Flinders University, Adelaide.

In the year 2000, Trudi Szallasi from Queensland, completed the Australasian Course for Health Professionals and achieved 95% on the 2000 IBLCE exam—the highest score in the world and the highest ever score for an IBLCE exam at that time. Well done Tudi.



Many of the students in our course this year gained in the high 80% for their IBCLC 2005 exam. Congratulations to them all.

Australasian Lactation Courses, GPO Box 336 Unley SA 5062

Congratulations ELLEN

Ellen McIntyre was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) on the Queen's Birthday in 2005 for service to the community as a lactation consultant and counsellor, and through the development and delivery of information and education courses on breastfeeding

Health Professionals who work with new mothers and babies have an obligation to have a sound knowledge base in both the art and science of breastfeeding

The IBCLC exam is held on the last Monday of July each year all over the world.

For more information, visit the IBLCE website www.iblce.edu.au or contact:

*Regional Administrator, Bridget Roache
IBCLE in Australia PO Box 281 The Gap
QLD 401 or RA@iblce.edu.au*

Ph (03) 6223 8445, Fax (03) 6223 8665

email: office@iblce.edu.au

The Lactation Course for Health Professionals

This course consists of 10 modules covering all areas identified in the International Lactation Consultants Examination.

Each module consists of study guide questions, multiple choice questions and case studies that give a variety of aspects for participants to respond. Students send their work (via post or email) to the course directors to re-view and provide feedback.

Participants have 7 months to complete the 10 modules. These can be undertaken at the individuals own pace and as we know, life experiences do get in the way, so extensions are readily available on request. Around 4 hours a week of study is required to complete the course in 7 months.

Each year we update the course (based in part on student evaluations) and add information about resources that become available.

Who does the course?

The majority of participants in the past have been midwives, with child health nurses the next major group. Many doctors, general practitioners as well as obstetricians and pediatricians have undertaken the course in the past. Health professionals, including nutritionists, physiotherapists, speech pathologists and occupational health professionals have been students as well as a journalist and of course many Australian Breastfeeding Association Counsellors.

Over the years we have had many health professionals, generally midwives or nurses who have used the course as part of their University elective in Bachelor, Post Graduate or Masters degrees.

Health Departments in some states have funded staff to do this course as part of their Midwifery Enhancement Programs.

Participants who undertake the Australasian Lactation Courses do so to update their knowledge in breastfeeding, gain CERPs, or undertake our course in preparation for the IBCLC exam. However, it is not necessary to be an exam candidate to register and undertake this course.

The International Board of Lactation Consultants Examiners (IBLCE) who administer the IBCLC exam, is independent of and not associated with, nor endorses, any particular lactation education course.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact Jen Byrne (08) 82718740

Email: jen_byrne2000@hotmail.com

PO Box 336 Unley SA 5061

www.users.bigpond.com/mcintyreae/alc.htm

What other courses do we have?

Breastfeeding Management Workshop

The Breastfeeding Management Workshop is an 8 hour breastfeeding education package designed help maternity units to provide breastfeeding education to their staff, particularly in readiness for those institutions wanting to work towards the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative accreditation.

Breastfeeding and Lactation: multiple choice questions

This package has been extremely useful for those preparing to sit (or resit) the IBCLC exam. Consisting of 130 questions, most based on colour photos, it includes answers with explanations and/or references. **Note** these multiple choice questions are included in the Lactation Course for Health Professional's package.