

**Deborah Sims**

11 Tallowood Way  
 Frenchs Forest NSW 2086  
 0412187761  
[debsims@bigpond.com](mailto:debsims@bigpond.com)

**Career Objective**

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- Post-doctoral research in early parenting support or perinatal mental health

**Skills and Attributes**

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- Completed a PhD thesis on Early Parenting Support Services for Primigravid Women Who Gave Birth in a Private Hospital in 31/2 years
- Completed a Master's Degree in Midwifery by research on Postnatal Psychosocial Assessment
- Provided research assistance on 4 perinatal studies: Universal Services (CHoRUS Study), Breastfeeding Support, the Post Natal Risk Questionnaire (PNRQ Study) and the Perinatal Integrated Psychosocial Assessment (PIPA Study).
- Attained an Advanced Certificate of Management and have previously held leadership roles as Regional Marketing Manager and Program Director.
- Experience in preparation and delivery of lectures, tutorials and workshops in capacity as maternity educator at Sydney Adventist Hospital and North Shore Private Hospital.
- Provided group facilitation and develop material for the *12 Weeks to Publication* for FoH academic writers, March – June and August to November, 2019
- Presented for the Presentation Skills Workshop, FoH, June 2019.
- Guest lecturer for Graduate Diploma midwifery students, on Child and Family Health Nursing, in October 2017.
- Engaged in scholarly and professional development activities at UTS provided by FoH, GRS and Careers UTS.
- Presented at biannual FoH *Research Student Forums* 2013-2018, and FoH *Shark Tank* 2017.

## Education History

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- Philosophy Doctorate (Nursing, Early Parenting Support) current  
University Technology Sydney
- Masters of Midwifery (Perinatal Mental Health) 2015  
University Technology Sydney
- Graduate Certificate Child and Family Health Nursing 2014  
University Technology Sydney
- Graduate Diploma Midwifery 2011  
Sydney Adventist Hospital and University Technology Sydney
- Bachelor of Business 1994  
(deferred)  
University Technology Sydney
- Advanced Certificate of Management 1991  
North Sydney College of TAFE
- Registered Nurse Training 1987  
Western General Hospital, Victoria

## Employment History

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- Registered midwife and prenatal educator 2011 - Current  
Maternity and Paediatrics, Sydney Adventist Hospital
- Parenting class facilitator 2014 - 2016  
North Shore Private Hospital
- Research Assistant 2011 - 2012  
Faculty of Health, University Western Sydney
- Research Assistant 2013 – 2015  
Faculty of Medicine, University New South Wales
- Midwife and Registered Nurse Special Care Nursery 2005 - 2010  
Sydney Adventist Hospital, NSW
- Registered Nurse, Maternity and Special Care Nursery 2002 – 2004  
Vanderbilt University Medical Centre, TN, U.S.A.
- Program Director 1997 - 1999  
Miami Arthritis and Osteoporosis Centre, FL, U.S.A.
- Clinical Directory, Day Stay Programs 1996 - 1997  
Ramsay Management Services. LA, U.S.A.

- Director of Development 1995- 1996  
Ramsay Management Services. LA, U.S.A.
- Regional Marketing Manager 1993 - 1995  
Ramsay Health Care, Sydney
- Practice Manager 1989 - 1992  
Executive Health Management, Sydney
- New Graduate Nurse 1988 – 1989  
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney
- Registered Nurse 1987 - 1988  
Belmont Private Hospital, QLD

### **Publications**

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- Minoeee, S., Cummins, A., Sims, D., Foureur, M., Travaglia, J., & Minoeee, S. (2019). Scoping review of the impact of birth trauma on clinical decisions of midwives. *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jep.13335>
- Poudel, K., Sims, D., Morris, D., Neupane, P., Jha, A., Lamichhane, N., ... Poudel, K. (2018). Cancer Cases Referral system in Nepal. *Nepal Journal of Epidemiology*, 8(4), 748–752. <https://doi.org/10.3126/nje.v8i4.23877>
- Sims, D., Fowler, C., & Sims, D. (2018). Postnatal psychosocial assessment and clinical decision-making, a descriptive study. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 27(19-20), 3739–3749. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.14530>
- Christl, B., Reilly, N., Smith, M., Sims, D., Chavasse, F., Austin, M., & Christl, B. (2013). The mental health of mothers of unsettled infants: is there value in routine psychosocial assessment in this context? *Archives of Women’s Mental Health*, 16(5), 391–399. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00737-013-0360-0>

### **Conference Presentations**

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- Clinical Decision Making from Psychosocial Assessment  
Tresillian Healthy Children, Flourishing Families Conference in October 2016
- A Critical Incident Analysis of CFH Nurses’ Decision-Making in EPS at Australasian Marce Society Biennial Conference, in October 2015
- Psychosocial Assessment in an Early Parenting Setting at International Marce Society Biennial Conference in September 2014
- Psychosocial Assessment and Mental Health Of Women, Using The Post Natal Risk Questionnaire in an Early Parenting Setting at Australian College of Midwifery Conference, September 2013 and PHC Research Conference in July 2013

### **Philosophy Doctorate**

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- Completed an explanatory, sequential mixed-methods study on Early Parenting Support Services for Primigravid Women Who Gave Birth in a Private Hospital. The results determined an increased risk of postnatal mental illness in primigravid women who gave birth in a private hospital compared to those who gave birth in a public hospital. Data from interviews and focus groups explored and interpreted the early parenting support experiences of women, clinicians and administrators at two private hospitals, using a focus of maternal self-efficacy. Findings determined that the women who gave birth in a private hospital were unlikely to be offered assessment of risk of mental illness as part of routine perinatal care and that early parenting support in regard to infant feeding, help-seeking and peer support may not facilitate maternal self-efficacy and may increase the risk of mental illness.

### **Research Funding**

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Awarded Australian Research Training Program funding 2016 – 2019.

### **Professional Organisation Membership**

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- President - Australasian Chapter of International Marce Society (October 2019 – October 2021)
- Member of Australian College of Midwifery (since 2009)
- Member Child and Family Health Nurses Association (since 2014)
- Member Australian Researcher Alliance for Children (since 2016)