

Needs and assets assessment for mothers living with Hepatitis B in South Eastern Sydney LHD

14th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference

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SESLHD, NSW HEALTH

1-3 August 2024

Acknowledgement of Country



I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians on whose land we are meeting today, the Larrakia people.

I would also like to acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of the Dharawal, Gadigal, Wangal, Gweagal and Bidjigal peoples on whose lands this project was completed. We pay our respects to Ancestors and Elders, past and present.

Why

Pregnant women living with hepatitis B (HBV) and their babies are a priority population in the NSW Hepatitis B Strategy.

Little is known about this population in South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD).

Methods

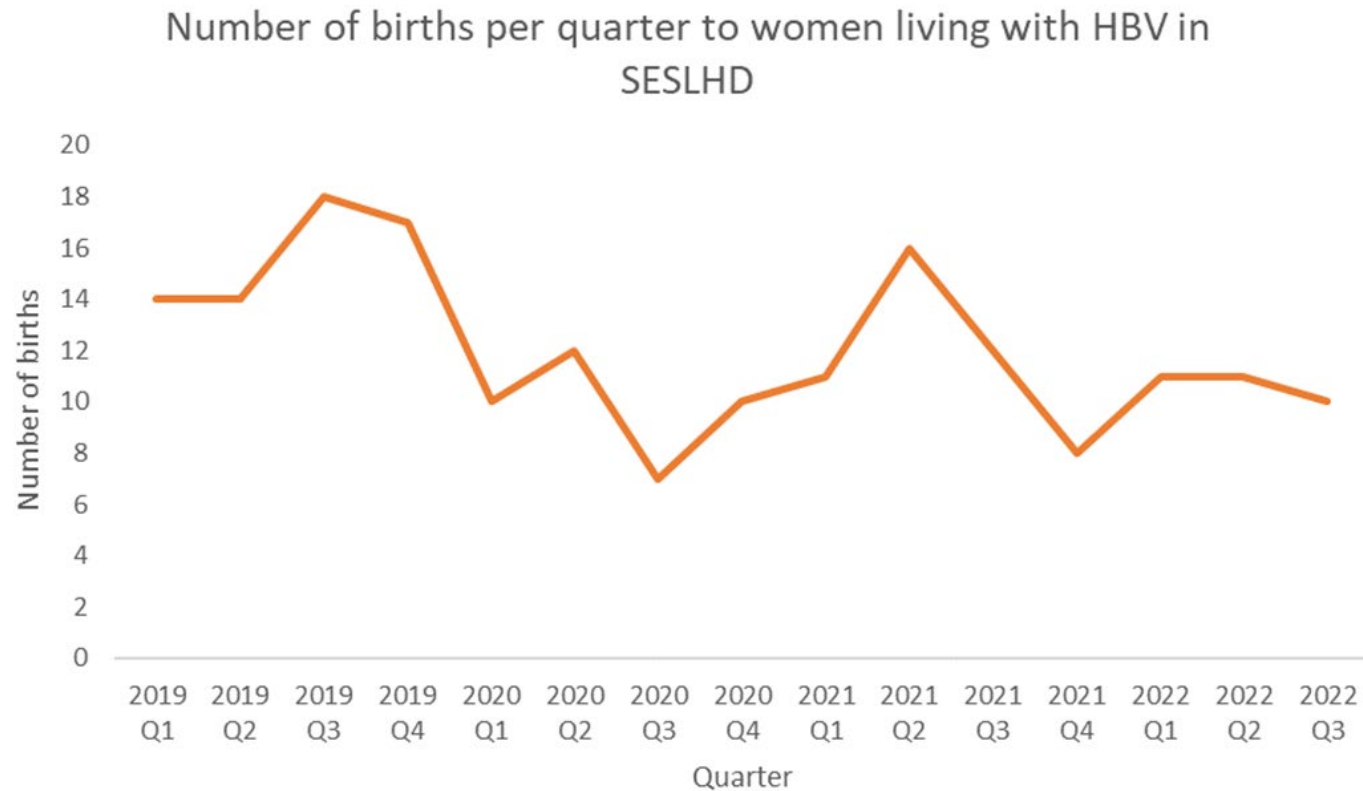
Quantitative

- Data from 172 women living with hepatitis B who had 181 birth events over 45 months was analysed

Qualitative

- Nine women participated in one on one interviews
- Ten staff involved in maternity care for women living with HBV participated in one on one interviews (midwives, CCW, staff specialists, GP, HBV CNC, women's health nurse)

Quantitative Data: Births

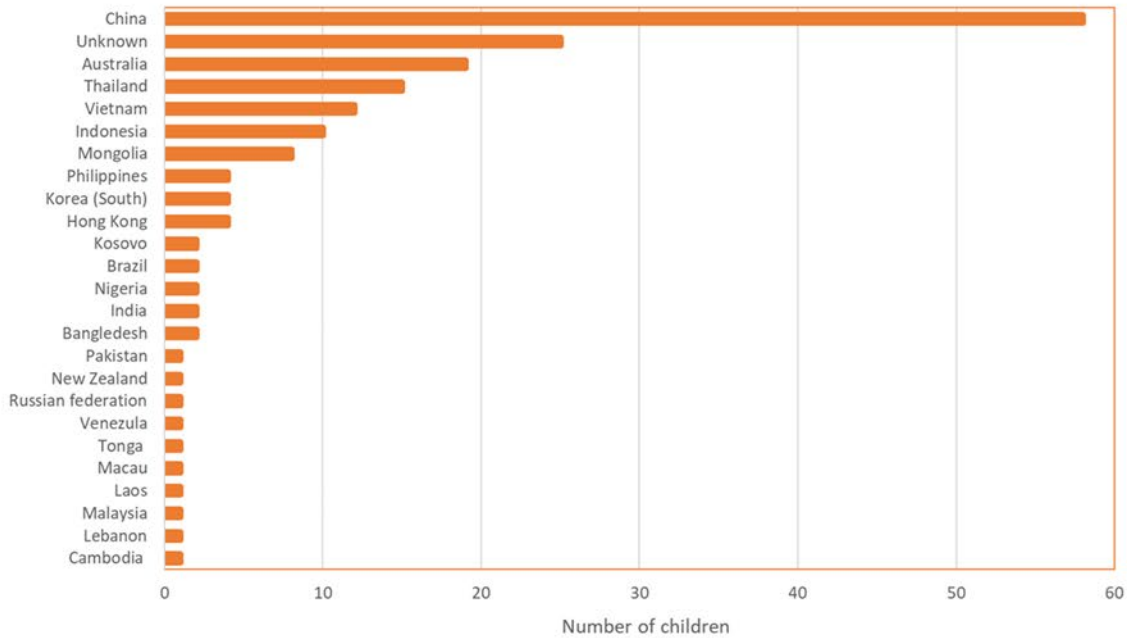


41% private hospitals

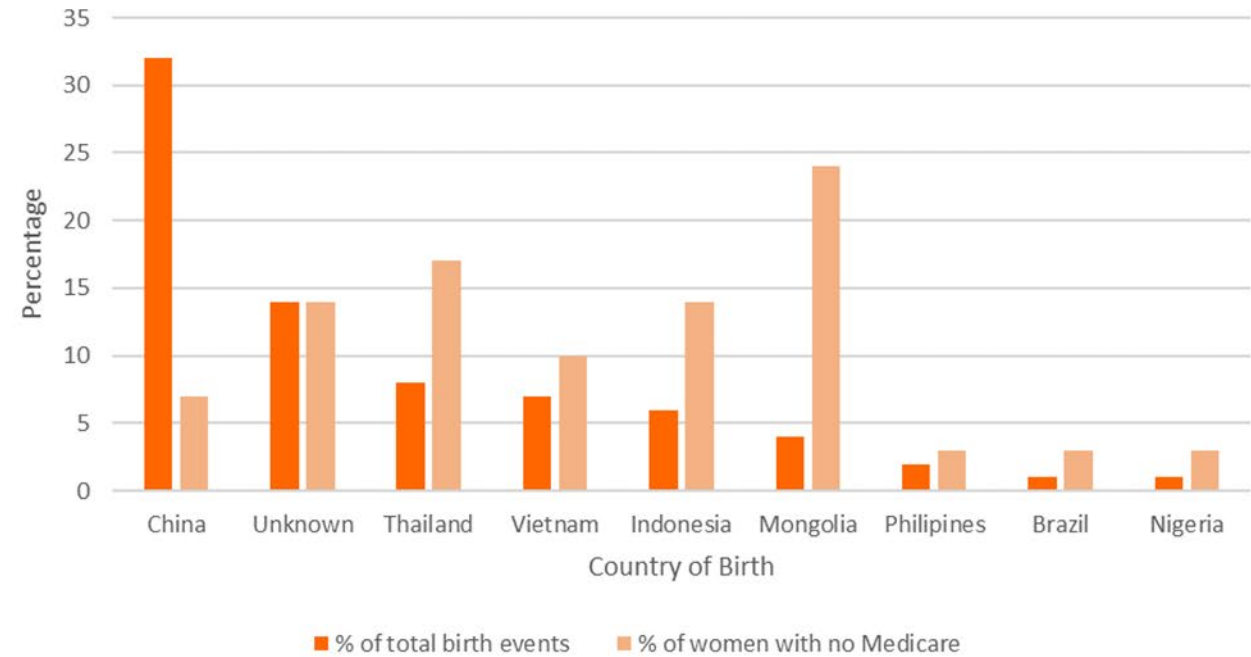
59% Public Hospitals

Country of Birth and Medicare

Number of Children by Mother's Country of Birth



Medicare Ineligibility by Country of Birth



Qualitative themes

- Australian HBV healthcare perceived positively
- Need for improved referral processes
- Challenges in balancing motherhood and HBV care
- Stigma
- Knowledge gaps/where to find information

Recommendations

- Provision of clear, specific referral pathways
- Relationships between HBV and maternity across private and public
- Workforce development
- Flexible models of care e.g. telehealth, community access
- Focus on CALD communities – CCW, interpreter access, education
- Advocacy re Tx options for Medicare ineligible patients

Achieved so far...

- A liver health clinic is being piloted at a clinic for mothers with children under 5 years
- Shared our findings with **Hep B Community** who are exploring options for online support groups for mothers
- Forum with maternity services is planned

Acknowledgements

The HARP Unit would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the patients and staff members who participated in interviews. This report would not be possible without your contributions and willingness to share your experiences and knowledge.

Project Team

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