



**COUNCIL OF DEANS OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY  
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND**

**Quality and Strength of Nursing and Midwifery Research in Australia  
recognised in the Australian Research Council “*Excellence in Research for  
Australia (ERA) 2010 National Report*”.**

The Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery congratulate Australian nursing and midwifery academia for the excellent outcomes achieved in nursing and midwifery research in the recent ERA assessment. It strongly demonstrates that schools of Nursing and Midwifery throughout Australia and New Zealand are engaged in a wide range of research activities.

The Australian Research Council “*Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2010 National Report*” released recently demonstrates that the quality of research undertaken by Australian nursing and midwifery researchers is ‘on par’ if not better than many of their international counterparts.

Professor Patrick Crookes, Chair of the Council states “That this quality of research has been undertaken by nurses and midwives in an environment where there is little funding available to the discipline, is a tribute to the importance that the profession attaches to ensuring nursing and midwifery practice is supported by a strong evidence base.” It is also testimony to the capability and resolve of our Nursing and Midwifery researchers.

Professor Crookes stressed the need for further funding to be allocated to nursing and midwifery research particularly in light of the growing body of evidence which demonstrates the positive impact of nursing and midwifery care on patient outcomes – work which needs to be built upon.

While we applaud the ARC for presenting the Report findings, it is disappointing that the study does not report more broadly than bibliometrics on the impact of nursing and midwifery research, as the Council believes that had this factor been explored the performance of nursing and midwifery research would have most likely been even greater.

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*The CDNM is the peak organisation that represents the Deans and Heads of the Schools of Nursing and Midwifery in universities that offer undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in nursing and midwifery throughout Australia and New Zealand.*