

# 20 Years of Obstetric Medicines Information Calls: A timeline of enquiry patterns

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## Background

A West Australian, Obstetric Medicines Information Service (OMIS) has been collating enquiry data pertaining to pregnancy and breastfeeding since establishment in 1988 at King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH), a specialist tertiary obstetric referral centre. The KEMH Pharmacists provide safety information regarding the use of medicines in pregnancy and breastfeeding utilising their specialist clinical expertise and specific obstetric reference material.

## Medicines Use in Pregnancy & Breastfeeding



90% of women take at least **ONE** medication in pregnancy and/or breastfeeding



**Intended versus Unintended subject**

## Obstetric Medicines Information Centres

Availability of Obstetric Medicines Information Services assist in the provision of accurate, evidence-based information using purpose fit resources within their scope of practice.

Lack of participation of women in clinical studies, limitation to animal studies or pharmacokinetic data or conflicting human data increases the complexity of providing information to health consumers.

## Aim

To evaluate the database of medicines information enquiries received by the Obstetric Medicines Information Service over a 20-year period (2001-2020)

## Method



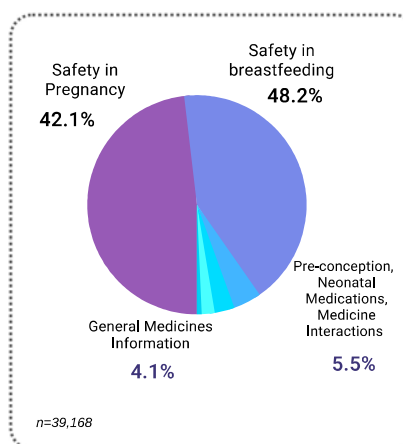
## Results

### Caller Details

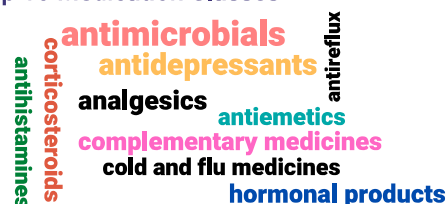
Pregnancy	Breastfeeding
36.2% Medical Practitioners	19.6%
5.6% Nurses & Midwives	13.2%
15.3% Pharmacists	10.3%
0.8% Other Health Professionals	0.8%
42.0% Public (Patients & Carers)	56.0%

**Total Enquiries**  
48,458

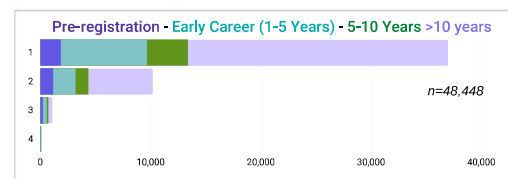
### Enquiry Details



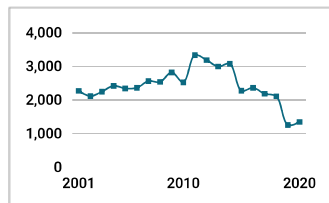
### Top 10 Medication Classes



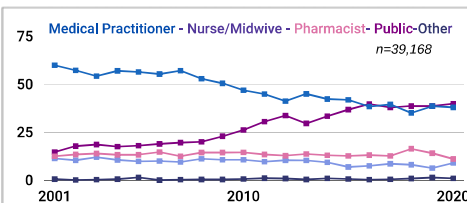
### Number of References Used Per Enquiry & Pharmacist Experience



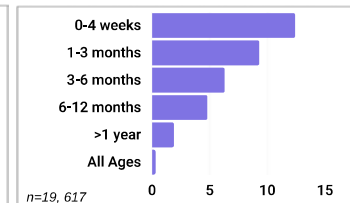
### Number of Calls per Year



### Caller Type per Year (%)



### Trimester & Infant Age of Concern (%)



## Conclusions

- Increase in health professionals' use of the KEMH OMIS over 20 years reflects changes in the complexity of medication and prescribing considerations and supports the ongoing need for this specialised service.
- Evaluation provided an understanding of patterns of medicines use and areas for education, training and development to assist the users of the service.
- Pharmacists continue to be well placed for the provision of medicines information services
- The KEMH OMIS provides an integral model of care for health professionals and the public of Western Australia.

