



Assoc. Prof Debra Kerr



Adjunct Prof Tanya Farrell

## **Nursing and Midwifery Thursday 19 October, 2:00pm to 4:00pm Auditorium, Level 1 WCHRE, Sunshine Hospital**

### **“What to teach and how to teach nurses about communication”**

**Associate Professor Debra Kerr  
PhD, M Bus Leadership, GC Clin Res Methods, GC Tert Educ, BN  
Deakin University Western Health Partnership**

Associate Prof Debra Kerr is a registered nurse with clinical experience in coronary care and emergency nursing.

She is currently employed as Associate Professor in Nursing in the Western Health partnership with Deakin University.

Her PhD, submitted in 2009, focused on intranasal naloxone for heroin overdose. Since that time her research has concentrated on nurses' communication skills and bedside nursing handover.

Debra has close to 100 research publications and has received several competitive research grants. She also has particular interest in research ethics.

### **“Why midwives matter and how they make a difference.”**

**Adjunct Professor Tanya Farrell  
Director of Maternity Services, Women's and Children's Western Health**

Adjunct Prof Tanya Farrell is a midwife and a nurse with extensive experience, expertise and leadership within maternity services midwifery and nursing and a proven track record of an ongoing commitment to improving the care of women and babies, at a Victorian and national level.

Tanya recently joined Western Health as she desired to move closer to where care is provided; to support and lead a maternity service and its midwives and nurses during a time of rapid growth and reform.

Tanya's comes to Western Health from Safer Care Victoria (SCV), where she was the Senior Maternity Adviser since 2018. During this period Tanya also spent a significant time as the Acting Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer for Victoria. Tanya was also the Chair of the Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity (CCOPMM) and is the first midwife to hold this role in the council's 70-year history.

Previous to this Tanya was the Executive Director of Midwifery and Nursing at the Royal Women's Hospital. Tanya is also an Adjunct Professor in Nursing and Midwifery at La Trobe University and Deakin University and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Public Health by La Trobe University in 2022.