

26 AUG 2011

23 August 2011

To whom it may concern,

I would like to make a submission to Early Childhood Development Workforce Report Draft Recommendation 12.3. I strongly disagree that Maternal and Child Health nurses do not need nursing and midwifery training.

In January of 2010 my husband and I had our first child. The pregnancy and delivery were both straightforward and uncomplicated. Two weeks later during our home visit, my MCH Nurse, Jenny Newel, suspected a blood clot had formed in one of my legs. I was taken to hospital where I was diagnosed with both deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolisms. These had to be confirmed by ultrasound and CAT scan.

If left untreated clots have the potential to cause strokes and death. And as we live in a rural area, medical assistance might have come too late for me. Without Jenny's training as both a nurse and midwife, my family could have been deprived of a wife and mother. She saved my life.

Nursing and midwifery training is crucial to the health of both the babies and the *mother's* they see on a daily basis.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Kindly

Jacqui O'Brien