

2 October 2019

## OUR AMAZING NURSES AND MIDWIVES HONOURED

Jane Barr, from South Eastern Sydney Local Health District was honoured with the Clinical Leadership award at the seventh annual Excellence in Nursing and Midwifery Awards in Sydney last night.

She was one of 13 nurses and midwives acknowledged for their outstanding contribution to the New South Wales health system.

Jane, the Acting Nurse Unit Manager in the Perioperative Unit at Sydney, Sydney Eye Hospital, was recognised for her outstanding contribution towards quality and safe patient centred care, and her ability to lead, educate and empower her team members to achieve best practice in their everyday work.

“I feel like a clinical leader is only as good as their team and I work with such a wonderful team at Sydney Hospital, they are all so passionate about their patients, their safety and about giving them the best possible care we can,” Jane said.

Jane began her nursing career at Royal North Shore Hospital as a theatre nurse before taking on the Clinical Nurse Educator role for anaesthetics at Sydney, Sydney Eye Hospital in 2017.

The winners were chosen from among 43 finalists, including nine from regional and rural NSW, across 12 categories ranging from excellence in practice, to clinical leadership and innovation in research.

Minister for Health Brad Hazzard presented the awards to the 2019 winners at a special ceremony in Sydney last night.

“These nurses and midwives go above and beyond to provide excellent care to patients and help make our NSW public health system what it is today – world class,” Mr Hazzard said.

“Some have devoted lifelong careers to healthcare, others are launching their careers – and all of the 2019 award winners have made an outstanding contribution to the busiest public health system in Australia.”

More than 53,000 nurses and midwives work full-time and part-time in NSW Health hospitals and health services.

NSW Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer Jacqui Cross congratulated the winners in each of the 12 categories.

“These nurses and midwives are the best of the best and highly deserving of these prestigious awards,” Ms Cross said.

“They do an amazing job and I thank them for their passionate, dedicated approach to helping patients and improving healthcare.”

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**South Eastern Sydney Local Health District**

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The NSW Government is investing \$2.8 billion to recruit 8,300 extra frontline staff over the next four years, including an additional 5,000 nurses and midwives.

The winners are:

1. **Excellence in Nursing/Midwifery – Assistant in Nursing/Midwifery: Meenakshi Baveja, The Children's Hospital Westmead, Sydney Children's Hospitals Network**
2. **Excellence in Nursing – Enrolled Nurse: Neil Keenan, Campbelltown Hospital and Joshua Paroz, Campbelltown Hospital, South Western Sydney Local Health District (joint winners)**
3. **Excellence in Nursing/Midwifery Graduate Award: Sally Smith, The Tweed Hospital, Northern NSW Local Health District**
4. **Excellence in Nursing – Registered Nurse: Kerry Devine, Westmead Hospital, Western Sydney Local Health District**
5. **Excellence in Midwifery – Registered Midwife: Susan Guinane, NSW Health Pathology, NSW Health**
6. **Excellence in Nursing or Midwifery – Clinical Leadership: Jane Barr, Sydney Hospital & Sydney Eye Hospital, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District**
7. **Excellence in Nursing or Midwifery Management: Brian Lane, Camden and Campbelltown Hospital, South Western Sydney Local Health District**
8. **Excellence in Innovation – in Education: Rowena Mitchell, South East Regional Hospital, Southern NSW Local Health District**
9. **Excellence in Innovation – in Research: Michelle Barakat-Johnson, Sydney Local Health District**
10. **Excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healthcare: Elise McCarthy-McPhan, Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick, Sydney Children's Hospitals Network**
11. **Judith Meppem Lifetime Achievement Award: Marion Hawker, Greater Newcastle Sector Community and Aged Care Services, Hunter New England Local Health District**
12. **Consumer Appreciation Award: Matt Tinker, Royal North Shore Hospital, Northern Sydney Local Health District.**

For more information on the 2019 Excellence in Nursing and Midwifery Awards visit the NSW Health website, [here](#).