



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

Women's Breast Care Nurse Coordinator Role

Monique Baldacchino
The Royal Women's Hospital

RWH Breast Reconstruction Service.



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

- Commencement August 2010
- Arrival of Mr Dean Trotter
January 2011
- 3 Breast Plastics clinic per
month
- 2 half day operating lists per
month at RWH
- BCN co ordinates clinics
- Inflation of Tissue Expander by
Breast Care Nurse

Aims of The Breast Reconstruction Service



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

To provide :

- education and support to women requiring breast reconstruction.
- access to both tissue and implant reconstruction
- access to complete reconstruction under the one umbrella.



What is nipple tattooing?

The art of colouring the nipple areolar complex post breast reconstruction.

Without this colouring the newly created breast, looks undefined.

Why a Nurse-led Nipple Tattoo Clinic



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

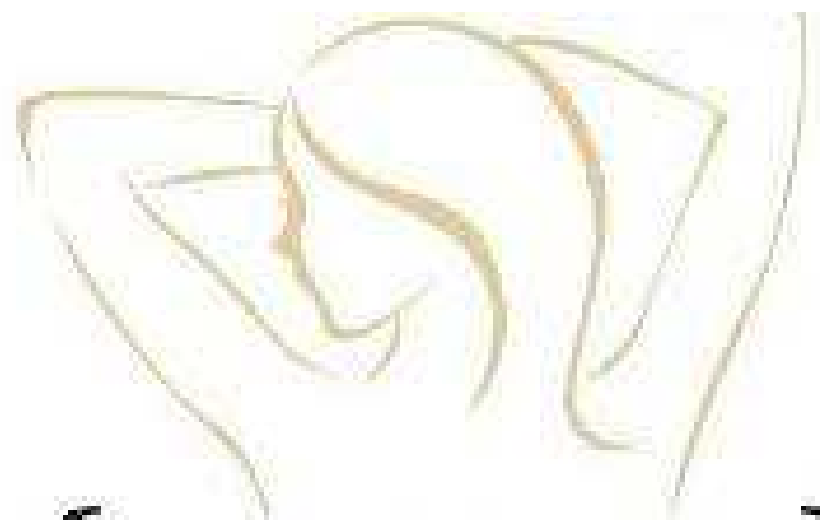
To provide a complete breast reconstruction service- patients previously had to facilitate this stage independently.

The BCN has a rapport with women attending clinic

To advance the scope of Practice of The Breast Care Nurses



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia



{ T R E A S U R E }
{ C H E S T }



Lee

breast reconstructions

London Experience



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

Attended a three Day Master class;
at The Finishing Touches Group
in Haywards Heath Sussex. This
class specialised in the art of
areolar artistry.

Five Day observational experience
at St Andrews Centre at
Broomfield Hospital Chelmsford
Essex, London.

Three Day Course included:



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

1st Day focused on Theory

2nd and 3rd Day focused on clinical practice. Women requiring nipple tattooing or scar revision volunteered to be models.



Micro-pigmentation

This is the process used to create a nipple tattoo.

Micro-pigmentation involves the implantation of safe pigments into the dermis and epidermis of the skin.

Iron Oxide Pigments



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia



Iron Oxide Pigments

Pharmaceutical grade

Non-toxic

FDA approved for use in
cosmetics, drugs and foods.
Not FDA approved for
injection.

European Union regulated

Material Safety Data Sheets.

Micro-pigmentation Machine



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia



Pigments implanted at a speed of 140-150 pulses per second

Single use needles contain 1-10 tiny needles

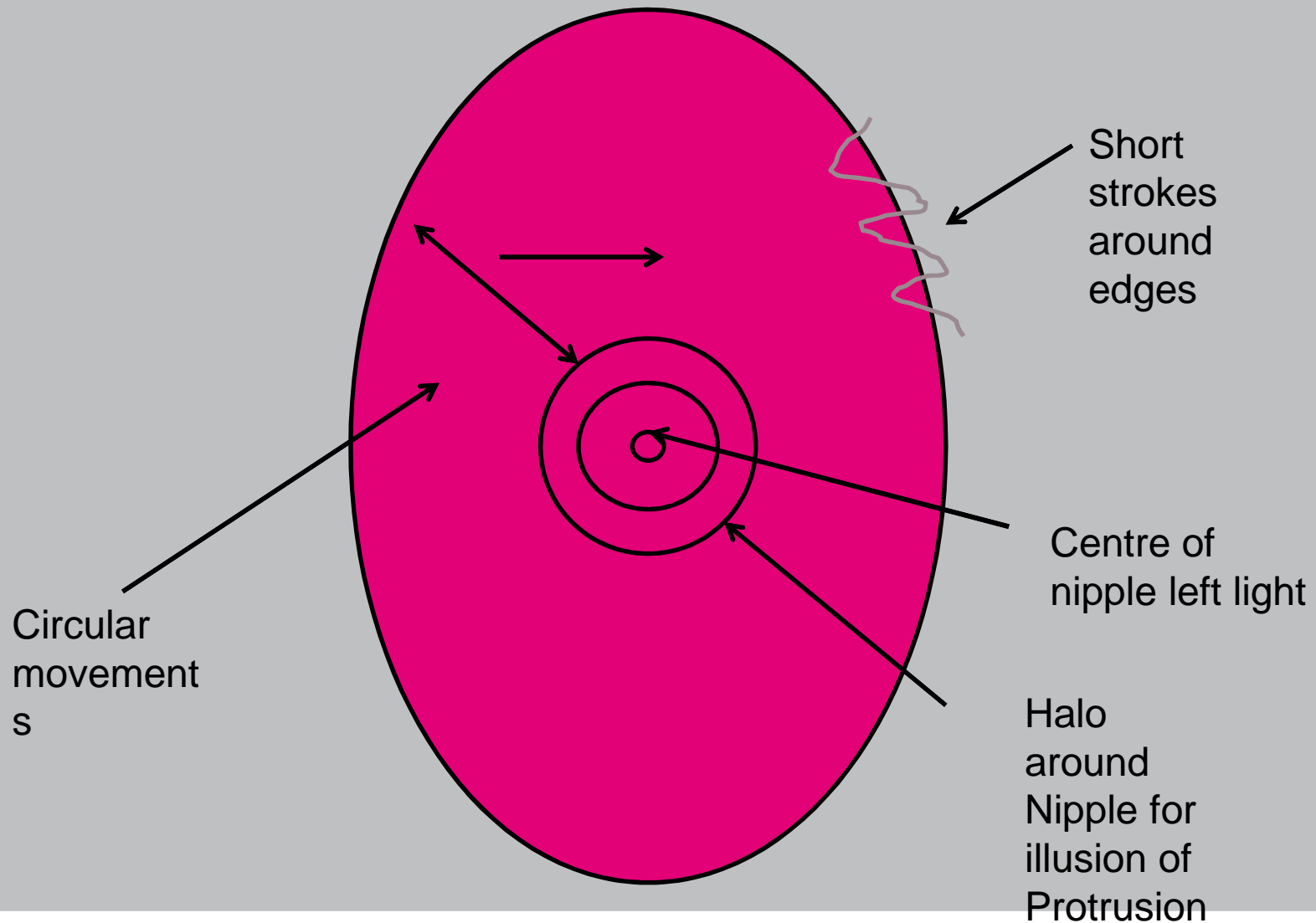
Needles move in and out like a sewing machine

Punctures the skin to a depth between 1.5 and 2mm; between the dermis and epidermis.

Tattooing Technique



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia





Healing Process

Pigments implanted in Epidermis & Dermis

Crust Forms

After 10-14 days 40% of initial colour will be lost

After 6-10 weeks further treatment may be required (as it takes at least 6 weeks for the skin to truly heal)



After care:

- * Keep area dry for 48hrs
- Apply thin layer of Bepanthen ointment Tds with clean gauze or nursing pad.
- Allow scab to develop do not scratch or pick.
- Avoid swimming, sun beds and sun bathing until the newly treated area is completely healed. Direct sunlight and chlorine can cause skin irritation and irritation.
- Pigment colour will initially appear quite intense immediately post treatment, once healed and the scab lifted there will be a 40% loss of colour intensity.

Back in Australia



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

- We developed a procedure and protocol for nipple tattooing
- We had our equipment and procedure approved
- Now run what we believe is the first nurse-led nipple tattoo clinic in a public hospital in Victoria, possibly Australia.
- I have provided this service for 22 ladies.



Structure of Nurse led Service

Referred to clinic by Plastics or Breast Surgeon

Patient's are placed on waiting List

Patient's should be 3-6 months post a NAC reconstruction

Patients must be 6-12 months post IVC & RTx

Phone consult with Breast Care Nurse prior to appt

If patients require LA, they are asked to purchase

Appointment takes 1.5 to 2 hours



Current Patient Activity

Currently I have performed 41 tattoos

10 have been bilateral tattoos

31 unilateral tattoos

Majority of these patients have had a second treatment and one patient has had a third treatment

Currently I have I have two tattooing procedures each week.

Outcomes



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

Formal evaluation planned for second half of next year.

From an observational assessment:

No Infections

One pt with an allergy to lipsticks
(required skin testing)

Two patients had immediate local
irritation

One patient had a inflammatory response
to her third treatment.

Patient feedback



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria australia

Very positive

Happy for BCN to provide service
(great opportunity for treatment
and survivorship discussions)

Patients have been happy with the
result post treatment, but this
obviously needs to be assessed
formally.



Where to from here?

- Weekly clinic: two patients for treatment each clinic
- Develop RWH/RMH specific Breast reconstruction information
- Plan to establish a B.R.A meeting.