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Events

Delivering the Pathway to Safe, High-Quality Maternity and Midwifery Care 2022

Thursday 10th February 2022

Event Guide




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Welcome Letter

Dear Delegate,

Welcome to Delivering the Pathway to Safe, High-Quality Maternity and Midwifery Care 2022.

5 years on from the Better Births review there are still concerns on safety in maternity care that need resolving. While the rates of stillbirths and maternity deaths have lowered, inequalities in care mean the needs of women from diverse backgrounds are still not being fully addressed. There must be an even greater focus on providing a personalised service, which ensures continuity of care throughout women's pregnancies. To do so, maternity units must implement quality improvements by providing a joined-up service, using the latest digital services, and developing staff to provide person-centred care, to meet national standards.

- The 2019 Women's experience survey showed that 88% of women felt they were given appropriate advice and support at the start of their labour when they contacted a midwife or a hospital
- There has been a 21% fall in the stillbirth rate between 2010-2018
- Black women are 4 times more likely, and women from Asian ethnic backgrounds are 2 times more likely, to die in pregnancy or childbirth than white women
- Women who receive midwifery-led continuity of care are 16% less likely to lose their baby

Join us at Delivering the Pathway to Safe, High-Quality Maternity and Midwifery Care 2022 to hear key insights from leaders and changemakers in maternity care. Learn from best practice case studies, which detail trusts driving patient safety standards by undertaking quality improvement initiatives, increasing partnership working and developing digital aids. Further examples will highlight the best approach for tackling inequalities in care and providing a personalised service. There will also be the opportunity to network with senior colleagues from across the NHS, making connections and sharing insights to improve outcomes for all.

If you have any technical issues, please get in touch with our technical team through the support button at the top of the EventsAir platform.

We hope you have a rewarding and enjoyable day.

Yours Truly,

David Blake
Government Events



Agenda

- 09:20-09:40 **Online Registration**
- 09:40-09:50 **Chair's Extended Opening Address**
Dr Ellen L Kitson-Reynolds, Principal Teaching Fellow and Midwifery Programme Lead, University of Southampton
- 09:50-10:10 **Keynote: Developing Maternity Services and Improving Patient Safety by Learning from Perinatal Deaths**
Kelly Williams, Lead Midwife, North Thames Genomic Medicine Service Alliance hosted by UCLPartners
- 10:10-10:30 **Case Study: Case Study: Undertaking Quality Improvement Initiatives In-Line with the National Ambitions**
Gaynor Armstrong, Group Director of Midwifery, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust
- 10:30-10:50 **Case Study: Improving the Safety and Outcomes for Mothers by Developing Staff and Teams**
Gemma Puckett, Head of Midwifery, Ashford & St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- 10:50-11:10 **Questions and Answers**
- 11:10-11:35 **Comfort Break**
- 11:35-11:55 **Keynote: Delivering Safer, More Personal Maternity Care for All: Lessons from Covid-19**
Gill Walton, CEO, Royal College of Midwives
- 11:55-12:15 **Case Study: Providing Personalised Maternity Care by Ensuring the Patient Voice is Heard**
Sarah Noble, Deputy Regional Chief Midwife, East of England Regional Team and Dr Alison Wright, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust
- 12:15-12:35 **Case Study: Reducing the Inequality of Outcomes for Minority Communities**
Benash Nazmeen, Director and Co-Founder, Association of South Asian Midwives
- 12:35-12:55 **Questions and Answers**
- 12:55 **Chair's Closing Remarks**

*Programme Subject to Change



Speaker Biographies

Dr Ellen L Kitson-Reynolds

Principal Teaching Fellow and Midwifery Programme Lead, University of Southampton

Dr Ellen Kitson-Reynolds is the Director of Programmes: Nursing and Midwifery, Lead Midwife for Education, and Principle Teaching Fellow in Health Sciences, University of Southampton. She is also a Post-Doc Clinical Academic Midwife and Professional Midwifery Advocate linked to the University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust. Ellen's clinical and published expertise covers clinical decision making, supporting newly qualified midwives and educational advances for pre-registration midwifery education, continuity of carer implementation in midwifery curriculum, bladder management linked to birth and a special interest in autistic spectrum disorders linked to maternity services. She currently module leads the Autonomous Midwifery Practice module whereby student midwives undertake their own case load held/continuity of carer experience as part of a pre-registration module. Ellen has provided national Continuity of Carer training as part of the HEE package in 2019

Kelly Williams

Lead Midwife, North Thames Genomic Medicine Service Alliance hosted by UCLPartners

Kelly is the Lead Midwife for the North Thames Genomic Medicine Service Alliance (NTGMSA). In this role she provides leadership and expert midwifery knowledge within the North Thames region through maternity transformation projects in genomics. Kelly has a strong focus on developing the workforce to meet the growing needs of women and birthing people in terms of genomic and genetic testing. There is an ongoing project to ensure that parents who require genetic input after a perinatal postmortem occurs in a supportive and streamlined manner.

Prior to joining NTGMSA, Kelly has worked as a midwife in South-East London, first with a focus on bereavement care and subsequently in improving maternity safety. She is a trustee for SANDS (Stillbirth and Neonatal Death) national charity and is chair of the overview panel in South-West London CCG to review and reduce child deaths.

Kelly has a degree in Mathematics from the University of Newcastle and a degree in Midwifery from the University of Cumbria. She is currently undertaking a doctorate at the University of Dundee, with a focus on the role of the midwife in providing complex bereavement care.

Gaynor Armstrong

Group Director of Midwifery, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust

Registered Midwife since 2003, Gaynor has worked as a clinical midwife for a number of years before realising her passion in Maternity Safety. Since 2012 Gaynor has worked in patient safety firstly within corporate nursing before returning to maternity as Women's and Children's Risk Manager. Her passion is around implementing the Saving Babies Lives care bundles and improving pregnancy outcomes for women and their families. In 2019 Gaynor took the interim Head of Midwifery role at University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire where she continues to lead on the Quality and Safety Workstream as chair for the Local Maternal and Neonatal System of Coventry and Warwickshire working closely with the Associate Directors of Midwifery at George Eliot Hospital and South Warwickshire Foundation Trust.

Gemma Puckett

Head of Midwifery, Ashford & St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

I have been a midwife for 22 years and have worked across a variety of clinical settings and in acute Trust, public health and commissioning roles which has given me a rich and diverse experience across different parts of the NHS system. I have held my current position as Head of Midwifery at Ashford & St Peters Hospitals since September 2019. I am passionate about people – their wellbeing, their work experiences, and the impact these can have on patient safety and culture. I was incredibly proud to be nominated for and given the chief midwifery officer silver award for my leadership through the pandemic. I believe I work in one of the most privileged professions and to be in a position to lead the incredible team that I do!

Gill Walton

CEO, Royal College of Midwives

Gill Walton is the Royal College of Midwives' Chief Executive and General Secretary. Gill is an experienced and acknowledged midwifery leader. Her focus at the RCM is to advocate for members as both a trade union and a professional association, ensuring that members are supported throughout their career and ensure their voices are heard by policy makers, employers and other stakeholders. Her passion for promoting a multidisciplinary respectful working through One Voice, with the RCOG and other partners, is role modelling an approach essential to maternity safety and improvement. Before joining the RCM, she was the Director of Midwifery and Maternity Services at Portsmouth Hospitals and held similar posts at the Royal Berkshire Hospitals, Barking and Havering and Redbridge, and the John Radcliffe in Oxford. Gill has led many NHS transformation programmes for maternity services and has been involved in national strategic policy developments including work with the Nursing and Midwifery Council, Department of Health & Social Care and other regional strategic bodies.



Sarah Noble

Deputy Regional Chief Midwife, East of England Regional Team and Dr Alison Wright, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust

Sarah Noble is Deputy Regional Chief Midwife across the East of England, whose portfolio centres around supporting all aspects of Workforce. As a former Associate Director of Midwifery, she has extensive experience in implementing the maternity transformation policy asks and her service was awarded Midwifery Service of the Year in 2020 for the implementation of a systemwide approach to Continuity of Carer. Sarah was one of four Maternity experts who advised the Health and Social Care Select Committee Report (published in July 2021) on the state of maternity services. She was invited by Baroness Cumberlege in 2015 to be one of three midwifery representatives on the national maternity review and contributed to the publication of the Better Birth Report 2016. Sarah now is a member of the national stakeholder council, chaired by Baroness Cumberlege and advises on the NHSE continuity of Carer subgroup. Sarah is also the national lead alongside her Obstetric counterpart Dr Ali Wright on supporting choice and personalisation.

Sarah is passionate about improving both the safety and experience of expectant families, through relational based care with a known midwife and maternity team. She believes that maternity care must play a larger part in building social capital to achieve sustainable outcomes. Supporting the ongoing wellbeing of Maternity staff is integral to that success.

Benash Nazmeen

Director and Co-Founder, Association of South Asian Midwives

Benash Nazmeen is a Specialist Cultural Liaison Midwife, working towards addressing health inequalities as highlighted by MBRRACE within maternity services.

A Trustee of Iolanthe Midwifery Trust, a Midwifery Ambassador and Chair for the Shared Decision Making Council Maternity Stream for NHSE, Benash is actively invested in improving maternity services for those we care for and those who work in them.

She has co-designed and runs Cultural Competency and Safety Workshops for maternity Health care professionals, while working closely with diverse communities. This successful course has been used as a case study of good practice for the NHS Equity and Equality Guidance for Local Maternity Systems, September 2021.

As Chair & director of Sheffield Maternity Cooperative she is working to provide alternative spaces for advocacy, support and safe spaces for black and brown communities.

She co-found The Association of South Asian Midwives (ASAM), they aim to increase awareness of South Asian communities and their concerns with maternity health care professionals. They are also working closely to highlight and support the South Asian workforce & working with the communities to tackle taboo subjects like loss, mental health, infertility etc.

Benash is also the Co-Chair for the Racial Injustice in UK Maternity Services Inquiry by Birth Rights Charity.



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[The Community Healthcare Event 2022](#)

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[Supporting People with Multiple Disadvantages 2022: Improving Outcomes through a Multi-Agency Approach](#)

6th July 2022, Online

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We hope you found the day interesting and insightful. Speaker presentations will be made available to download on completing the post show survey which will be emailed to you within one week after the event.

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