



# Midwifery Bulletin

## November 2024

**The aim of this monthly current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent news, guidelines, reports and research concerning all aspects of Midwifery.**

If you would like to request any of the research articles included in this bulletin, or to be put onto the bulletin's distribution list, please contact:

**Library and Knowledge Services at Pilgrim Hospital**

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### News, Guidelines and Reports

#### Cochrane Systematic Reviews

- [Perineal techniques during the second stage of labour for reducing perineal trauma and postpartum complications](#)
- [Prophylactic antibiotics for manual removal of retained placenta in vaginal birth](#)
- [Uterotonics for management of retained placenta](#)

**MHRA:** Monitor blood pressure when prescribing bromocriptine for prevention or inhibition of post-partum physiological lactation. See [here](#).

**Nuffield Trust:** Rebecca Best draws on her own experience as a midwife to describe how a clash of birthing philosophies can create problems in maternity care, while suggesting that a solution could be found in a greater focus on shared values. See [here](#).

**Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman:** England's Health Ombudsman has warned that women and babies are being put at risk after a worrying rise in the number of investigations about maternity care. The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO) is urging the Government and NHS leaders to learn from the mistakes being made and take action to protect more families from harm. See [here](#).

**Royal College of Obstetrics & Gynaecology:** [Policy position: racial and ethnic equality in women's health](#)

**Specialist Pharmacy Service:** [SPS PGD template](#) for the supply of folic acid 5mg tablets to reduce risk of neural tube defect or compensate for increased folate demand during pregnancy.

**Tommy's the Pregnancy and Baby Charity:** These new induction of labour resources were created after [PIF's Maternity Decisions survey](#) found more than 6 in 10 women did not have enough information to make an informed decision. Only 1 in 4 felt prepared by the information they received. See new resources [here](#).



**Tommy's the Pregnancy and Baby Charity:** Some of the words used by healthcare professionals to describe pregnancy loss are still making grief and trauma worse despite long-term calls to avoid insensitive terms, say researchers. See [here](#).

### Maternity services and workforce

**A qualitative study which aims to explore the factors influencing the delivery of both theory and practice of contraception and sexual health on pre-registration midwifery programmes in England | BMJ Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare 2024; 0: pp. 1–8.**

This study examines the contribution of pre-registration midwifery education in preparing student midwives for this aspect of their role.

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**Are educators and practising midwives working together to support the future workforce? | British Journal of Midwifery Vol. 32, No. 11 pp. 618-623**

This series of six articles is inspired by themes arising from the Royal College of Midwives' state of midwifery education report. The series explores the current landscape and challenges in educating the future midwifery workforce, particularly those that relate to the higher education workforce.

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**Midwives' perspectives on personalised maternity care in the UK | British Journal of Midwifery Vol. 32, No. 11 pp. 600-607**

Personalised care is associated with high-quality, safe maternity care. Limited evidence exists on midwives' perception of personalised care and potential barriers and facilitators associated with implementing it in practice. The aim of this study was to explore midwives' perspectives of personalised care.

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**National and local implementation of training for midwives to support women to do their pelvic floor exercises during pregnancy. Mixed method evaluation of training provision, implementation support and resources | Continence, 2024-10-01, Volume 12, Article 101395**

This study reports how we implemented our 'train-the-trainer' sessions in these new services and how we supported sites to implement our PFME training with their midwifery teams

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**New eLearning for occupational therapists working in perinatal mental health.**

Three new sessions of the [Perinatal Mental Health for Occupational Therapists eLearning programme](#) have been developed in collaboration with the Royal College of Occupational Therapists and the NHS England E-Learning for health Programme.

### Antenatal care

**Drugs and alcohol in pregnancy: what a paediatrician needs to know, how to ask and why it matters | Paediatrics and Child Health, 2024-11-01, Vol 34, 11, pp.430-435**



This article will explore the immediate and long-term impact of exposure to these substances in pregnancy and consider how to obtain an accurate history of exposure to drugs and alcohol in pregnancy as part of standard paediatric history taking.

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### Fundamentals

#### **The endocrine system and associated disorders | British Journal of Midwifery Vol. 32, No. 11 pp. 624-633**

This third and final paper explores the maternal endocrine system, outlining the key physiological adaptations in pregnancy and summarising the key pathophysiological conditions that may occur.

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### Pregnancy complications

#### **Bruck syndrome in pregnancy | BMJ Case Rep 2024; 17: e257696.**

Bruck syndrome is a rare, autosomal-recessive condition associated with features of both arthrogyrosis and osteogenesis imperfecta.<sup>1</sup> It is characterised by congenital large joint contractures with pterygia and bone fragility, leading to fractures and deformities, along with a short stature caused by progressive skeletal deformities.<sup>2</sup> There are fewer than 50 described cases of Bruck syndrome in the literature, with no reported cases in pregnancy. We describe a case of a successful pregnancy in a woman with Bruck syndrome.

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### Labour and childbirth

#### **Factors Influencing Instrumental Assisted Births: A Retrospective Study | Reproductive, Female and Child Health, 3, 4, pp. 1-6 Dec 2024**

To evaluate the rate of instrument-assisted deliveries among parturient patients hospitalized for live, vaginal births across 5 years and test for factors influencing the use of this procedure

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#### **Investigating the associations between early labour onset symptoms and self-diagnosed labour onset in a cohort study of primiparas | Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare, 2024-12-01, Volume 42, Article 101033**

The present study illustrates the interrelationship among five labour-onset symptoms and explores the association of these labour-onset symptoms with the self-diagnosed labour onset of primiparas.

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#### **Knee-to-chest flexion manoeuvre to reduce respiratory distress after planned caesarean birth: a feasibility study | Archives of Disease in Childhood: Fetal and Neonatal Edition 2024; 109:F665–F669.**

Objectives: To test whether performing a KCF manoeuvre at birth is feasible in infants born after planned CS and to test whether KCF leads to visible expulsion of lung liquid.

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#### **Perineal massage and warm compresses—Implementation study of a complex intervention in health | Midwifery 140 (2025) 104208**



The aim of the present study was to evaluate the effects of tailored, multifaceted strategies on acceptability, appropriateness, feasibility and adoption of the perineal massage and warm compress intervention by midwives.

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**Reducing post-Caesarean surgical site infections | Clinical Services Journal, October 2024 pp. 53-56**

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### Neonatal care

**Case Review: Bilious vomiting in a neonate | BMJ 2024; 387 (October 24<sup>th</sup>)**

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## Library training sessions

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2 – 2.45pm

During the session, we will highlight:

- How to use **ClinicalKey for Research** (subscribe to favourite journals, save content, create PowerPoint presentations direct from ClinicalKey, etc.)
- How to use **ClinicalKey at the Point of Care** (Solve questions in between consultations with the Clinical Overviews and Clinical Calculators, use Patient Education in different languages, access drug monographs, etc.)

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### Nurses

Training session\*

Date: Tuesday Dec 10, 2024

Time: 14:00hrs

Duration: 30 min (+ Q&A 15min )

Save your spot by registering now

\*Certificate of attendance will be provided



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**Please register for this webinar using the following link:**

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/af637f66-2836-4883-9196-d5060623636a@9274ee3f-9425-4109-a27f-9fb15c10675d>