

Regional Midwifery Forum

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD: 14th May 2004,

Present:

| Name | Unit |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Pat McGeown, Perinatal Institute | Co-chair |
| Toni Martin, Worcestershire Hospitals | Co-chair |
| Jean Lucas | Alexandra Hospital, Redditch |
| Wendy Burt, Esther Rackley | Birmingham Women's Hospital |
| Estine Dennis-Bryan, Thelma | City Hospital |
| Crossmann-Barnes, Susan Francis | |
| Linda Edwards, Dawn Fuller | George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton |
| Cath Mercer, Jacquie Barden, Anthea | Royal Shrewsbury Hospital |
| Gregory-Page, Cathy Smith | |
| Jasmin Daley, Yvonne Marshall | Sandwell General Hospital |
| Kerry Gorton | Manor Hospital, Walsall |
| Isobel McDermott, Ann O'Reilly, Jackie | Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry |
| Beasley, Carmel McCalmont | |
| Gill Christisan, N. Speakman | Wordsley Hospital |
| Helen Melville | Good Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield |
| Amanda Palmer, Elizabeth Wilson, | Hereford County Hospital |
| Tracey Sayce, Jan Pakes, | |
| Anne Mellor, Joyce Till | Mid-Staffordshire General Hospital |
| Sarah Elson, Chris Kettle, Helen | North Staffordshire Hospital |
| Hinchliffe, Karen Meadowcroft | |
| Kate Morse (minutes), Jill Wright | Perinatal Institute |

Agenda Items

1. Introduction

- Welcome and individual introductions, group includes representation from clinical midwives, supervisors of midwives and midwifery managers

2. Remit of group

- The remit of the group was discussed and agreed.

3. Terms of Reference

Aim

- all present agreed the aim was realistic and represented what was to be achieved by the group

Representation

- Agreed as per draft terms of reference
- Group felt there was a lack of representation from educationalists, one representative from each university to be invited
- The group agreed additional midwives can be invited for specific issues on an ad hoc basis

Objectives

- To be revised at next forum.

Action Points

Pat McGeown

Quorum

- At least 9 units must be represented at each meeting.

Meetings

- It was agreed the group will aim to meet at least quarterly, or more frequently, if indicated, dependant on emerging documents which the group may want to formulate a response to.

4. Representation

- Not all units who had expressed an interest to be involved were represented today.
- Follow-up letter to heads of midwifery on feedback of first forum meeting, to encourage those units not represented to send representation.

5. Presentation by Pat McGeown – NICE Antenatal Care Guideline

- Highlighted what aspects of the guideline are already undertaken in the region.
- Highlighted discussion points for group to respond to.

6. Local Implementation and Response

- **Reduced antenatal visits**, It was agreed one care pathway does not fit all, and antenatal care should be individualised to the woman regardless of parity, with the emphasis being on the quality of the contact given. The average number of visits was thought to be about 10.
- **Routine MSU's for asymptomatic bacteriuria**. Treatment reduces the risk of preterm birth. Varied implementation across the region. Some units were offering an MSU to all women, some to only their 'high risk' women; others had yet to implement any level of screening.
- **Urinalysis is a poor screening test for GDM**. Implementation of this recommendation has been hampered by the difficulty in attaining single test reagent strips. Others are awaiting ongoing research findings before changing practice.
- **Abdominal Palpation for fetal Presentation**. The Forum noted that all units represented still assess fetal presentation prior to 36 weeks to ensure the maintenance and development of clinical midwifery skills. As well as promoting maternal awareness of her developing baby.
- **Auscultation of fetal heart**. All present acknowledged the lack of predictive value of auscultation however the units represented continue to auscultate and document findings as it promotes the mother-baby bond, especially when using a sonicaid.

7. Any other Business

- Group asked to discuss in own units and bring suggestions for future topics to subsequent meetings
- As there is no budget for the Forum it was agreed that attendees should bring own lunch. Tea & Coffee will be provided.
- Topic for next meeting : **NICE Caesarean Section Clinical Guideline 13**

8. Date and Time of next meeting

- Tuesday 6th July 2004 at 13.30pm
Venue: The Perinatal Institute, Crystal Court, Birmingham

Toni Martin