

### SEEDS OF CHANGE AND NEW GROWTH FOR UKMIDSS

This is Paula's last newsletter before she heads off into retirement world in June. Always keen on a relevant and topical theme, Paula's final newsletter theme before she 'leaves' is Trees!

This newsletter updates you on the Previous PPH Study, our plans and activities for the next study, and our aspirations for future projects and studies.

Previous PPH is our third UKMidSS study. I'm sure you will agree that in spite of occasional 'environmental' challenges, the UKMidSS has laid down strong roots of support in all UK alongside midwifery units. The UKMidSS research team, which includes all reporting midwives, the Steering Group committee and the small team based at NPEU in Oxford, has grown and changed over time as the studies progressed. We have adapted to manage difficulties and challenges along the way, and have produced robust study findings, the fruits of which bring positive 'climate' change in midwifery practice.

The UKMidSS team is now preparing to branch out further to include freestanding midwifery units in our next study.

And looking ahead, UKMidSS is set to evolve further to develop more sub-study 'branches' similar to the midwifery unit admission criteria project, which all adds up to exciting and busy times ahead.



## UKMidSS Previous PPH Study Update

Our UKMidSS map shows all 123 contributing centres and the response to monthly report request emails for August 2018 to April 2019.

- Centres showing as an orange dot are those that have reported for some but not all months.
- Centres with a red dot have not yet started reporting.
- Centres with green dots have completed all their reports!

### Which colour dot are you?

99% of units have submitted at least one monthly report for the Previous PPH Study which is excellent participation but we do need ALL monthly reports to be submitted. Please check your reminder or status emails to see if you have more reports to submit.

Our regional reporting leaders are Cumbria and the North East, West and Central Midlands and Northern Ireland, closely followed by Cheshire, Merseyside and Wales. Thank you VERY much for your hard work.

Centres that have reported for less than five months of this study are included in the list below. If you are in the list and have **not** been in touch with us with an update please do so as soon as possible.

**Rushey Birth Centre, Reading**

**The White Horse Birth Centre, Swindon**

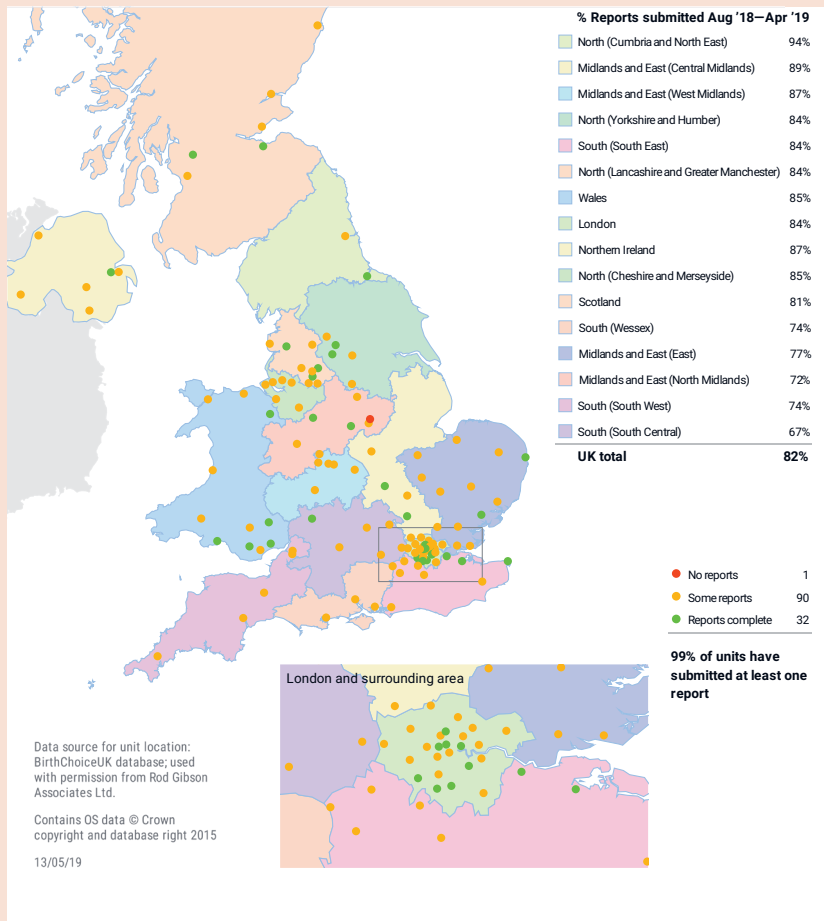
**Alongside Maternity Unit, Aberdeen**

**Primrose Midwifery-Led Birthing Suite, Hinchbrook**

**The Birthing Unit, Chelsea and Westminster**

**The Sanctuary Birth Centre, Nottingham**

**Truro Birth Centre, Cornwall**



## Make a clean sweep with your data entry and don't 'leave' it to the last minute!

As you are aware, the Previous PPH Study duration has been shortened due to the larger than expected number of cases being reported. The last report request for the current study went out on 1st May 2019. This will give a little extra time for centres to 'clean up' by reporting for any remaining months and completing data entry in OpenClinica before the new study starts in the autumn.

### Centres that have reported, but not yet started data entry

Alongside Maternity Unit, Aberdeen

The Dolphin Suite, James Paget

Bluebell Birth Centre, North Manchester

New Beginnings, Southend

The Willow Suite, Birmingham Heartland





## UKMidSS Biscuit Blossoms

Each time we write a newsletter, the biscuit award section causes some discussion in the UKMidSS office as we try to identify those reporters who are particularly deserving of reward and recognition. We know that many more of you than the few reporters who are nominated for biscuits, go the extra mile to get your UKMidSS work completed. We sometimes wish we could send biscuits to everybody! This time the lucky recipients are:

**Kathryn Jones** of Rushey Birth Centre, Reading. Kathryn has a large number of Previous PPH cases to report and enter data for, is keeping in regular contact with us and always sounds upbeat! She definitely deserves biscuits and may need them to keep her energy levels going and to stay happy we think.

**Gillian Morrow** of the Active Birth Centre at The Royal Jubilee Maternity Hospital in Belfast. The ABC, as it is known, joined UKMidSS in November last year as a new centre and enthusiastic Gillian not only quickly started reporting and completing data entry for most reporting of the months she was able to, but also joined us at the Study Day in Birmingham in December.

**Lindsay Craney** of Newcastle Birthing Centre. Lindsay is a consistent steadfast reporter and has been with UKMidSS from the first study. We salute your loyalty Lindsay!

Treats will be in the post to each of you very soon.



## New UKMidSS Study: PPH in Midwifery Units

The next study will investigate management and outcomes of PPH occurring in midwifery units. The first report request is due to be sent out on 1st October 2019. This will be the first UKMidSS study to involve freestanding midwifery units.

We are busy finding reporters for these new centres. Midwife reporters need to be added to our administration system and also given access to OpenClinica before the study starts, and will need guidance and support to get them familiar with the study and systems.

We will be running a webinar training session later in the summer before the study start date. Look out for more information via email soon.

If you have a freestanding midwifery unit in your Trust or Health Board, please can you now help us by identifying the best contact midwife for the unit and (with their permission) send their name and email address to us at [ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk)

## Send us your news!

We're always looking for interesting items to brighten up our newsletter so if you have any suggestions for content, or something you'd like to share with the UKMidSS network please get in touch. Maybe you could write a short piece about your birth centre, send us some photos of your unit (please check permissions to share first!), or tell us about a new birth centre project we can feature. Please get in touch on [ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk)

## Welcoming New Steering Group Members

Our UKMidSS team grows! We have recently appointed five excellent new members to the Steering Group each bringing difference and diversity of life and work experiences to UKMidSS.

Philippa Cox, Consultant Midwife, Homerton University Hospital.

Meena Bhatia, Consultant Obstetrician, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

Karen Joash, Consultant Obstetrician, Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital.

Jackie O'Neill, Lead Midwife, Community and Freestanding Midwifery Led units, South Eastern Trust, Northern Ireland.

Anna Temke, Lead Midwife, Marton Suite, James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough.



## Introducing the new UKMidSS Research Midwife - Ginny Mounce



Ginny is a midwife who has been working in a research role for the Nuffield Department of Women's and Reproductive Health at the University of Oxford for ten years where she worked on studies that focused on infertility and fertility treatments, including national clinical trials. As such she has experience of collecting data for research purposes and hopes to use this insight to help in her new role with UKMidSS. Previously she worked as a hospital based midwife in several settings, including time in the midwife-led birthing unit in Oxford.

In 2017 she was awarded her PhD from the University of Surrey for her thesis, an ethnography of couples experiences of the early 'infertility journey'. She is particularly interested in investigating patient experiences, to complement traditional clinical research.

We are looking forward to welcoming Ginny to the UKMidSS team in early July.

## Midwifery Unit Admission Criteria Project

Over the winter we ran a quick survey to find out about the different admission criteria used by midwifery units across the country. MSc Midwifery student, Ceri Glenister, worked on this project and has sent us this update:

Excitingly, the admission criteria study is nearing completion. There was a fantastic response; 84% completed the survey and 71% responded to the request for admission guidelines. A big thank you to everyone who participated amongst their busy working lives.

Data collection finished in February, I then read all the guideline documents, extracted information from them and compared them to the national guidance in NICE CG190 (Intrapartum care for healthy women and babies). All that is left now is to finish writing everything up, first for my MSc dissertation and then for a paper in a journal. I can't say much about the findings here because we don't want to jeopardise that publication, but in brief:

- There was wide variation in guideline length, layout and content, and in the extent to which guidelines were similar to or different from national guidance.
- We have identified some particular admission criteria where guidelines often diverged from national guidance



**We will let you know about the paper once it has been published!**

## Goodbye from Paula



It's nearly time for me to say goodbye. On 7th June it is my birthday. I started nurse training on my 18th birthday in 1982 and I shall be retiring on the same date, somewhat older and wiser. As we have had a bit of a tree theme going in this newsletter, I will finish on this; I think I am like a tree. Like most long serving NHS staff, I've been blown about for many years in the various winds of change in health care and had to grow and adapt. I've provided shelter, comfort and protection for many patients and some colleagues over the years. I've branched into research and worked for nearly 6 happy years at NPEU within Oxford University. I've been very fortunate to always be in a job where I have associated with many lovely people and do work that matters. I will miss lots of things about being part of a big and busy organisation but in future will be doing lots of new things and having new adventures. I shall carry on growing! It's been a genuine pleasure working with UKMidSS and all the midwives who contribute to such valuable midwifery knowledge.

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