

Early Autumn Newsletter



Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter. We hope you enjoyed the summer and had some time off to recharge and rest before entering our busiest month of the year!

As always, in this newsletter we will update you on all the goings-on at UKMidSS over the last few months. This includes new staff, along with the status of the Advanced Maternal Age Study and the Induction of Labour (IOL) Survey. In the time between this newsletter and the last, the three months of reporting alongside the IOL Survey have been and gone!

UKMidSS Stars

First, and most importantly, a big thank you to all of our reporters and champions of UKMidSS. We really could not do this without you and we appreciate the time and effort you dedicate in order to contribute to our studies and surveys.

This month, special mentions go to some of our reporters who have completed their outstanding data entry for the Advanced Maternal Age Study.

Congratulations to:

- Carrie Garside from the Barnet Birth Centre at Barnet Hospital for your stellar work in entering all of your outstanding case and control data.
- Beauty Havire from the Barking Birth Centre at Barking Community Hospital for your determination in ensuring your data entry was complete.
- Alex Lloyd from the Stroud Maternity Unit at Stroud Maternity Hospital for addressing the outstanding data for your unit and communicating this to the UKMidSS team.

Your biscuits are in the post!



Introducing our new Midwifery Researcher



Hello! My name is Tabitha and I am the new Midwifery Researcher for UKMidSS, taking over from Alessandra as she moves on to pastures new. I have briefly introduced myself by email, but here I thought it would be helpful to give you some more background, and put a face to the person behind the emails!

I studied midwifery at the University of Leeds and graduated in 2017. I worked as a clinical midwife in a variety of settings before working in my most recent role as a Research Midwife at Barts Health NHS Trust. Over this time, I completed a Master's degree in Healthcare Research and a Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship with Health Education England and the National Institute for Health and Care Research.

I'm so excited to be working with you all on UKMidSS. Together, we are contributing to the evidence base for care in midwifery units, and this in turn will help women make decisions about their place of birth.

If you ever have any queries about UKMidSS, for example questions around data entry, confusion about what counts as a case or need clarification on what is outstanding for your unit, please reach out and send me an email (ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk) or give me a call (01865 617823). I work for UKMidSS Monday – Wednesday and will respond in this time. My inbox is also open if you ever want to talk about research more generally.

UKMidSS Study Updates

Advanced Maternal Age Study

January 2024 was the last month for active monthly reporting of information on admissions, births, and cases of **advanced maternal age** in a midwifery-led unit (MLU), along with entering more detailed information about cases and controls. From February, we have been asking our reporters to catch up on any missing monthly reports and enter any outstanding data. For the results to be useful we need to analyse the data and write up the results as **soon as possible** so we will be **closing data collection for this study at the end of September**.

Overall we are at 90% reporting completeness, and 80% of units have reported for all 12 months of the study. The units with missing monthly reports are listed below. If you can, **please catch up with these ASAP – it will really make a difference!**

We have complete data for 80% of reported cases (and associated controls). Units with outstanding **data entry** are listed below. If you are able to, **please enter any outstanding data ASAP**.

The more complete our reporting and data entry is, the more reliable the results are and the more likely it is that they will have an impact on practice. Every little helps at this stage so please do what you can! I know we have been in touch with several of you already to help with data collection.

Should you need any help, please just ask! Email Tabitha at ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk

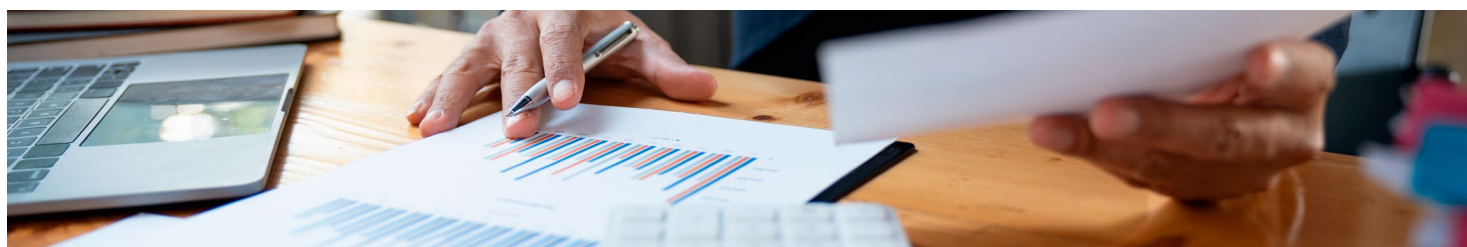


Missing Monthly Reports

The Midwifery Led Unit, Daisy Hill Hospital	Acorn Birth Centre, Tameside General Hospital
Frome Birth Centre, Frome Community Hospital	The Birthing Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital
Inverclyde Community Maternity Unit, Inverclyde Royal Hospital	The Juno Suite, Colchester General Hospital
The Birth Centre, North Middlesex Hospital	New Beginnings, Southend Hospital

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The Birth Place, Medway Maritime Hospital	Sanctuary Birth Centre, Nottingham University Hospital
Lucina Birth Centre, University Hospital	Singleton Midwife-Led Unit, William Harvey Hospital
Midwife Led Unit, Hillingdon Hospital	St Peter's Birthing Unit, St Peter's Hospital
The Midwifery Led Unit, South West Acute Hospital	Stockport Birth Centre, Stepping Hill Hospital
Crowborough Birthing Centre, Crowborough War Memorial Hospital	Dundee Midwifery Unit, Ninewells Hospital
Burnley Birth Centre, Burnley General Hospital	Chippenham Birth Centre, Chippenham Community Hospital
Lotus Midwifery Unit, Leeds General Infirmary	The Midwifery Led Birth Unit, University Hospital of Wales
The Birth Centre, Nevill Hall Hospital	Grange Maternity Centre, Petersfield Community Hospital
The Midwife Led Unit, Newham Hospital	Wantage Midwifery Led Unit, Wantage Community Hospital
The Exeter Low Risk Birth Unit, Royal Devon and Exeter Wonford Hospital	Meadows Birth Centre, Leicester General Hospital
Orchard Birth Centre, Leicester Royal Infirmary	The Carmen Suite, St George's Hospital
Rosie Birth Centre, The Rosie Hospital	Fylde Coast Birth Centre, Victoria Hospital
Meadow Birth Centre, Worcestershire Royal Hospital	Primrose Midwifery-led Birthing Suite, Hinchingbrooke Hospital
St Mary's Birth Centre, St Mary's Hospital	



Missing Case Data

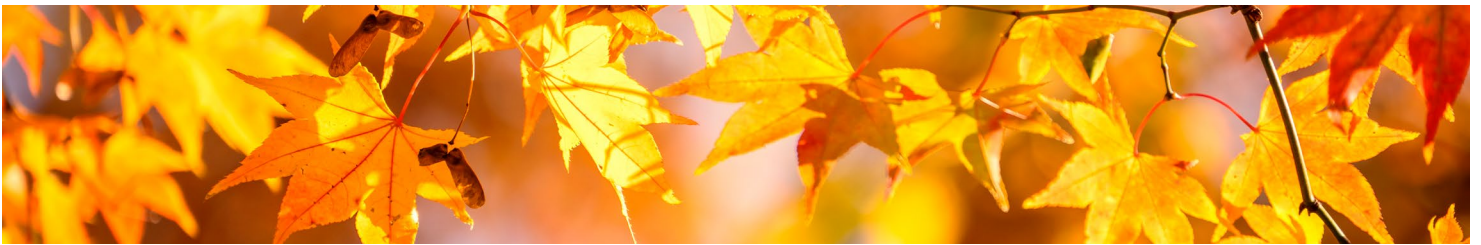
Abbey Birth Centre, St Peter's Hospital	Friarage Maternity Centre, Friarage Hospital
The Acorn Suite, Bedford Hospital	Frome Birth Centre, Frome Community Hospital
The Active Birth Centre, The Royal Jubilee Maternity Hospital	Lotus Midwifery Unit, Leeds General Infirmary
The Birth Centre, Croydon University Hospital	The Heath Birth Centre, Royal Free Hospital
The Birthing Unit, Broomfield Hospital	The Midwife Led Unit, Newham Hospital
Calderdale Birth Centre, Calderdale Royal Hospital	The Midwife Led Unit, Russells Hall Hospital
The Birth Unit, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital	St Mary's, Wythenshawe and the Manchester Birth Centre
Chichester Birth Centre, St Richard's Hospital	The Birth Centre, North Middlesex Hospital
Chippenham Birth Centre, Chippenham Community Hospital	The Birth Place, Medway Maritime Hospital
Chorley Birth Centre, Chorley and South Ribble Hospital	The Midwifery-Led Unit, Craigavon Area Hospital
Community Maternity Unit, Perth Royal Infirmary	Sanctuary Birth Centre, Nottingham University Hospital
Dundee Midwifery Unit, Ninewells Hospital	

Induction of Labour (IOL) Survey and Snapshot Monthly Reporting

In June, we launched our national survey aiming to describe practice around admission of women to midwifery units following IOL (either inpatient or outpatient). You will have received a link to complete the survey online and will have received several reminders if you have not yet done so. Alongside the survey we also asked you to send us monthly reports for June, July and August about your monthly total MLU admissions, births and **number of women admitted to the MLU following IOL**. We will use the results of the survey and the three-month reporting to decide whether there is scope to carry out a national study next year looking at outcomes for women admitted to midwifery units following cervical ripening or other components of IOL.

The good news is that so far we have a 71% response to the survey and around 60% of units have sent us at least one monthly report about IOL. The bad news is that only 29% of units have sent us all three monthly reports. So that we can base our decision-making about a national study on complete data we need as many of you as possible to send us reports for June, July and August.

We know that many units do not accept women following any component of IOL. If this is the case in your unit, please don't think that this survey and reporting doesn't apply to you! It is **even more important** that we hear from you so that we can accurately describe practice across the UK. And the survey and reporting will be really quick to do!



Update contact details

Is one of your reporters leaving? Is the lead midwife for the MLU going on maternity leave? Is your Head of Midwifery taking a sabbatical? If yes, please do let us know. We rely on updated contact details to communicate news as well as collecting data for our studies

CPD certificates

If you need a CPD certificate for your revalidation, please get in touch! Being a UKMidSS reporter means that you are contributing to national audit and research. You can drop us an email ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk



X @NPEU_UKMidSS ☎ 01865 617823 ✉ ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk

