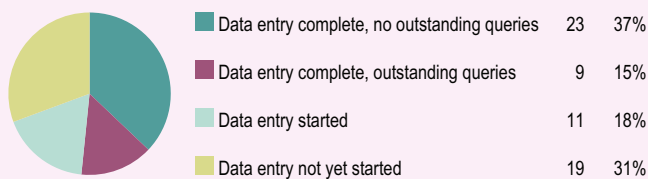
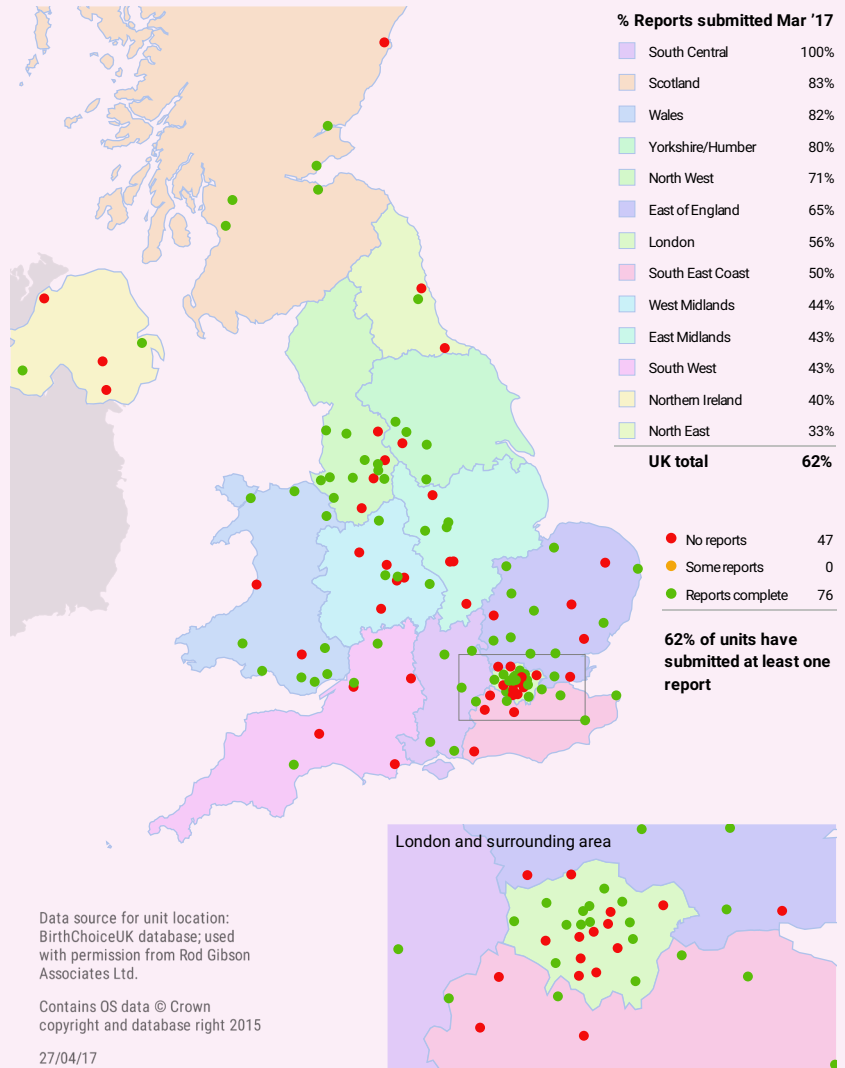


Spring into Spring!

As the days lengthen and we start to see the fresh new shoots of spring all around us, here in the UKMidSS office we are also seeing the first signs of response from all our fabulous reporters to our new study. Those of you who worked on last year's study all did so well, it's no surprise that you've made such a great start! But we also want to say welcome and thank you to our new reporters who have joined us for this study and also to three new units which have joined UKMidSS: The Birth Centre at Nevill Hall Hospital, Abergavenny; Pinderfields Birth Centre in Wakefield and the Lotus Birth Centre at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel. On page 4 you can meet two of our newest reporters, Caitlin Wilson and Hannah Ashmore, and hear about their new Birth Centre in Wakefield.

Our Neonatal Admission Study map shows all the units contributing to UKMidSS and the response to our first monthly report request. Overall, 62% of units have submitted their first report. Our regional leaders are South Central, with a fantastic 100% response rate, followed by Scotland and Wales, with just over 80%.



Neonatal Admission Study: Cases

We've had 62 cases reported for the Neonatal Admission Study so far. We already have complete data (for the case and both controls) for 32 (52%) of these and there are a further 11 cases where some data have been entered. For those of you who never had any cases to report for the Severe Obesity Study, so will be new to data entry, please check the guide in your white UKMidSS folder, and get in touch if you have any problems.



UKMidSS Stars!



Each month we recognise selected UKMidSS reporters who have gone 'above and beyond' for UKMidSS. Our Stars for January to March are all people who worked especially hard on finishing up their reporting and data entry for the Severe Obesity Study. **Anna Reeve** from the Marton Suite at James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough struggled throughout 2016 to get the right data out of her electronic systems to enable her to report to UKMidSS. From the middle of December to the end of January she caught up with 11 months of reporting and entered complete data on 12 cases! **Rachel Douglas** and **Clare Dinsdale** from the Bradford Birth Centre worked extra hard throughout February to complete data entry on their 77 cases (!) and follow up on all their queries. Finally, **Pamela Niven** and **Louise Hepburn** from the MLU at Victoria Hospital in Kirkcaldy did a great job in March, completing data entry and resolving data queries.

Thanks and well done to all!

Severe Obesity Study: We Still Need Your Data!

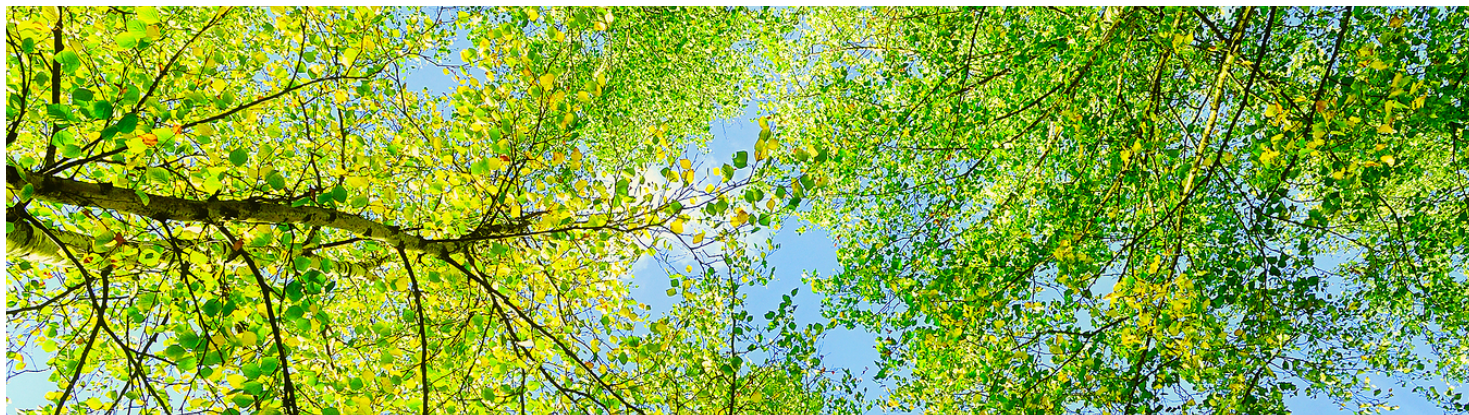
If you reported one or more 'cases' for last year's Severe Obesity Study and haven't yet completed data entry, it is **NOT TOO LATE!** We are analysing the data we have right now and expect to be reporting some early results in the summer, but we can still include your data if you get it into OpenClinica in the next few months. The following units still have Severe Obesity Study data entry outstanding. **If you have not already been in touch with us about completing this data entry, or are unsure how to proceed, please email ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk ASAP.**

Barnet Birth Centre, Barnet Hospital
Birth Centre, Birmingham Women's Hospital
Birth Centre, St Helier Hospital
Birth Centre, Wexham Park Hospital
Birthing Unit, Broomfield Hospital
Birthing Unit, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
Carmen Suite, St George's Hospital, Tooting
Haven Birth Suite, Poole Hospital
Home from Home Birth Centre, St Thomas' Hospital
Lewisham Birth Centre, University Hospital, Lewisham
Meadows Birth Centre, Leicester General Hospital
Midwife Led Birth Centre, Royal Oldham Hospital
Midwife Led Unit, Liverpool Women's Hospital
Midwife Led Unit, Ysbyty Gwynedd
Midwifery Led Birth Unit, University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff
Midwifery Led Unit, Altnagelvin Area Hospital
Natural Birth Centre, West Middlesex University Hospital
Orchard Birth Centre, Leicester Royal Infirmary
Tirion Birth Centre, Royal Glamorgan Hospital

UKMidSS and NMC Revalidation

Being a UKMidSS reporter means that you are participating in national audit and research which counts as participatory Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for the purposes of NMC Revalidation. If you would like a certificate confirming your contribution to UKMidSS as a reporter please email us at

ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk



Have You Seen Our FAQs Web Page?

Are you a reporter new to UKMidSS, having problems with data entry or just not sure what you should be doing? Of course we're always here to help on the phone or by email, but have you checked out the FAQs on our website?

<https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/ukmidss/reporters/faqs>

The screenshot shows the UKMidSS website interface. At the top, there are logos for npeu (National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit), Athena SWAN Silver Award, and the Nuffield Department of POPULATION HEALTH at the University of Oxford. A navigation bar includes links for About Us, News, Research, People, and Publications, along with a search bar. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads: Home / UK Midwifery Study System / Information for reporters / FAQs. The main content area is titled 'FAQs' and features the UKMidSS logo. The text explains that these questions were asked during the set-up phase and provides contact information. A sidebar on the left lists various site sections, with 'Information for reporters' expanded to show 'Data collection forms' and 'FAQs'. The main content includes sections for 'UKMidSS', 'Why does UKMidSS only cover alongside midwifery units (AMUs) and not other midwifery-led settings for birth?', 'How do you decide what studies to run using UKMidSS?', and 'I'm a UKMidSS Reporter, but I don't know what I'm supposed to do - can you help?'.

UKMidSS
UK Midwifery Study System

These questions have been asked by UKMidSS reporters and others during the set-up phase of UKMidSS and during our first study. If you have a question which is not answered here please contact us on ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk

UKMidSS

Why does UKMidSS only cover alongside midwifery units (AMUs) and not other midwifery-led settings for birth?

UKMidSS currently covers all AMUs because they account for around 80% of women who start labour care in a midwifery-led setting. Resources permitting, we hope to expand to include other midwifery-led settings in future.

How do you decide what studies to run using UKMidSS?

The topics for the first two studies were decided upon after consultation with senior midwives, the Royal College of Midwives and maternity care researchers in the NPEU and elsewhere. Suggestions for further studies will be considered by the UKMidSS Steering Group. If you have an idea for a study please get in touch.

I'm a UKMidSS Reporter, but I don't know what I'm supposed to do - can you help?

Yes, thank you for contributing to UKMidSS! As a UKMidSS Reporter you are our main point of contact for UKMidSS in your AMU. You are also responsible for reporting data to us every month for UKMidSS studies. There is more information in the Guide for UKMidSS Reporters in your site file. The recorded webinars on our Information for Reporters page are also a good place to start. If you're having problems, contact us on ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk

Meet Caitlin Wilson and Hannah Ashmore

Caitlin and Hannah are two of our newest UKMidSS reporters, from Pinderfields Hospital in Wakefield. We first made contact on Twitter @NPEU_UKMidSS when Caitlin tweeted about the opening of their Birth Centre in September last year. We wanted to catch up with them to find out about them, their new Birth Centre and why they were so keen to contribute to UKMidSS.

Can you give us a brief summary of your career to date – how did you get to where you are?

Caitlin: *I've had various posts in London and Yorkshire including caseload midwife, Practice Development Midwife, Clinical Placement Facilitator and Community Matron. I have been a Consultant Midwife for Normal Birth since 2015 and I am the clinical lead for normality across the Trust.*

Hannah: *I qualified as midwife in 2010 and worked in Lincolnshire before moving to Yorkshire. I have worked here since 2012, first as a rotational midwife and then as the Manager of one of the postnatal/antenatal wards. I was given the opportunity to be part of the opening of the new Birth Centre and was thrilled to be able to be part of the new exciting service we are offering women.*

What are the main duties/responsibilities of your job?

Caitlin: *I am the clinical lead for midwifery and the normal birth pathway. I also manage the clinical education team supporting them to deliver robust maternity education to the whole maternity team.*

Hannah: *I look after the day to day running of the Birth Centre and am responsible for all the staff on the unit. I also work one clinical shift a week which means I really feel like part of the team.*

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Caitlin: *I am passionate about normal birth. My greatest joy is to support midwives supporting women to achieve normal, physiological birth, either at one of our three birth centres, at home or in the obstetric unit.*

Hannah: *There are lots of aspects of my role I really enjoy; doing a clinical shift is definitely a highlight. I also really enjoy seeing the service grow and develop, and how midwives' confidence is growing. It is lovely to see the whole team take such pride in the service we offer.*



A room at Pinderfields Birth Centre

Can you tell us about your new Birth Centre?

Caitlin: *Pinderfields Birth Centre opened on 12th September 2016 after several years of planning and preparation. It is an alongside birth centre located along the corridor from the labour suite. All six rooms are en-suite and equipped with mood lighting and facilities to support active birth. Two rooms have a state of the art birthing pool with blue-tooth connectivity so women can play their own choice of music. We use Bradbury Couches which can turn into a double bed so that new families can rest together in comfort. We have welcomed over 350 babies since we opened and we are becoming more popular by the day.*

Why did you want to get involved with UKMidSS?

Caitlin: *I think it's incredibly important that maternity services support and contribute to midwifery research. UKMidSS is adding to the knowledge base around birth centres which is really valuable as they become an increasing popular choice with women.*

How do you manage/co-ordinate UKMidSS reporting in your unit? Have you had to set up any new systems to identify 'cases'?

Hannah: *We keep a monthly log of our transfers and births to ensure we are identifying any themes or trends. Any 'cases' are already identified through this process.*

What do you do in your spare time?

Caitlin: *I am a very amateur astronomer and I enjoy gazing at the stars with my children who are dreaming of becoming astronauts, astronomers and astrophysicists!*

Hannah: *We have recently bought a new home which can definitely be described as a 'project'. I currently spend most of my spare time cleaning up brick dust and glossing doors! I am looking forward to the summer and being able to enjoy the outdoors.*



Hannah Ashmore (left), Team Leader for Pinderfields Birth Centre & Caitlin Wilson (right) Consultant Midwife for Normal Birth



@NPEU_UKMidSS



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