

Late spring newsletter

Spring is here again, and for us in Oxford it means that there are many bluebells out in the parks to cheer us. This year we also had an extra bank holiday for the coronation of King Charles. We hope many of you enjoyed the celebrations over the bank holiday weekend.

The UKMidSS team has been really busy setting up a new survey and study, as well as attending conferences to present some results. Alessandra presented the results from our [Previous PPH Study](#) at the RCM Research and Education Conference in March and then Rachel presented the results of the Listen2Baby survey at the International Labour and Birth Research Conference in April. The team are starting writing up the results of the Listen2Baby survey now and you can read more about the wider project on the new [Listen2Baby](#) website.



In this newsletter, we will start off by awarding some biscuits to our reporters and then give updates from our research projects.

UKMidSS Stars

Getting up to speed with a new study is always challenging, so our UKMidSS Stars this time round are reporters who've done a great job starting reporting and data entry for the Advanced Maternal Age Study. The first reporter to win a sweet treat from us is **Amanda Fieldhouse, from Manchester Birth Centre, Wythenshawe Hospital**. The second reporter is **Lorraine Thompson, from Truro Birth Centre, Royal Cornwall Hospital**. Last but not least, **Tracey Miller from The Midwifery-Led Birthing Unit, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital**. We can't send treats to everyone, but are really grateful for the effort each of you puts into supporting our studies – we couldn't do any of this work without you!



Advanced Maternal Age Study ?

I don't remember - what is this study about?

The aim of the study is to estimate the proportion of women admitted to midwifery units for labour care in the UK who were aged 41 or older when giving birth, and describe and compare their labour care, management and maternal and neonatal outcomes with other women admitted to midwifery units.



Who's a case then?

Any woman **aged 41 years or older** when giving birth and admitted for labour care to a midwifery unit. The woman doesn't need to give birth in the midwifery unit in order to be eligible for our study.

... And the control?

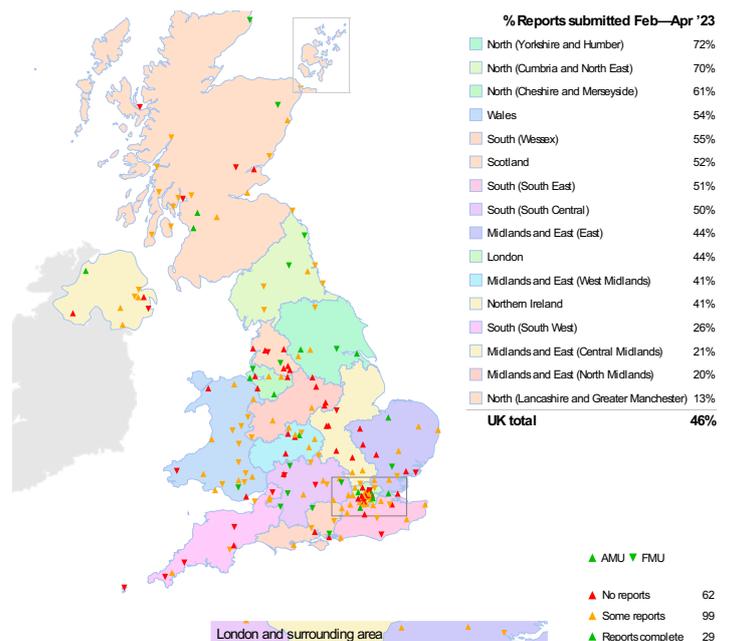
The control is the woman who was **admitted to the midwifery unit immediately before the case**, who did not fit the case criteria.

We don't admit women with advanced maternal age in pregnancy - do I still need to report?

Yes! Yes! And again, yes! Even if you don't routinely admit women who are aged 41 or older to the midwifery unit for labour care, please submit a report every month, just reporting zero cases. This will help us (a) describe how many units do and do not admit women with advanced maternal age; (b) work out what proportion of all women admitted to midwifery units are aged 41 and over; and (c) we won't be bothering you sending reminders!

My unit is closed, do I need to report?

Yes, if your unit is **temporarily closed** for a whole month, please submit a report saying that the unit was not open at all during the month. There is a special box to tick in the reporting form so this will only take a few seconds to do. This means that we won't send you a reminder for that month. If your unit is permanently closed, please get in touch with the UKMidSS team.



Data source for unit location: BirthChoiceUK database, used with permission from Rod Gibson Associates Ltd.
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03/05/23

67% of units have submitted at least one report



We need your reports!

There are some units who have not yet submitted any monthly reports. We really need you to start reporting for our latest study! In our previous studies we have had close to 100% participation. This helps us make a stronger argument for any changes in policy or practice and raises the profile of research about midwifery units. If you are a reporter or Head of Midwifery from one of the units below we really need to hear from you urgently. Please contact Alessandra on ukmidss@npeu.ox.ac.uk ASAP.

The Acorn Suite, Bedford Hospital	Inverclyde Community Maternity Unit, Inverclyde Royal Hospital
Barkantine Birth Centre, Barkantine Health Centre	The Juno Suite Colchester, General Hospital
Bluebell Birth Centre, North Manchester General Hospital	Lotus Birth Centre, Royal London Hospital
Burnley Birth Centre, Burnley General Hospital	Lunar Birth Centre, West Middlesex University Hospital
The Birth Centre, Birmingham Women's Hospital	Meadow Birth Centre, Worcestershire Royal Hospital
The Birth Centre, North Middlesex Hospital	Meadows Birth Centre, Leicester General Hospital
The Birth Place Medway, Maritime Hospital, Gillingham	Midwifery-led Unit, Countess of Chester Hospital
The Birth Unit Gloucestershire, Royal Hospital	The Mary Rose Birth Centre, Queen Alexandra Hospital
The Birthing Room, St Mary's Hospital, Isles of Scilly	The Midwife Led Birthing Unit, Peterborough City Hospital
The Birthing Unit, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital	The Midwife Led Unit, Newham Hospital
The Birthing Unit, East Surrey Hospital	The Midwife Led Unit, Ysbyty Gwynedd
Chorley Birth Centre, Chorley and South Ribble Hospital	The Midwifery Led Birth Unit, University Hospital of Wales
Coastal Birthing Unit, Clacton and District Hospital	New Beginnings, Southend Hospital
Community Maternity Unit, Mackinnon Memorial Hospital, Skye	Orchard Birth Centre, Leicester Royal Infirmary
Community Maternity Unit, Perth Royal Infirmary	Penrice Birth Centre, St Austell Community Hospital
Cossham Birth Centre, Cossham Hospital	Preston Birth Centre, Royal Preston Hospital
The Carmen Suite, St George's Hospital	Primrose Midwifery-led Birthing Suite, Hinchingsbrooke Hospital
Eastbourne Midwifery Led Unit, Eastbourne District General Hospital	Sanctuary Birth Centre, Nottingham University Hospital City Campus
The EGA Birth Centre, University College Hospital	Sanctuary Birth Centre, Nottingham University Hospital QMC Campus
Fylde Coast Birth Centre, Victoria Hospital	St Mary's Birth Centre, St Mary's Hospital, Melton Mowbray
Helston Birth Centre, Helston Community Hospital	Stockport Birth Centre, Stepping Hill Hospital
The Home from Home Unit, Ulster Hospital	Stroud Maternity Unit, Stroud Maternity Hospital
Tiverton Birth Unit, Tiverton Birth Unit	Withybush Midwife Led Unit, Withybush Hospital, Haverfordwest
Acorn Birth Centre, Tameside General Hospital	Broadlands Birth Centre, Princess Anne Hospital
Barnet Birth Centre, Barnet Hospital	The Birth Centre, Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital
Barratt Birth Centre, Northampton General Hospital	Chesterfield Birth Centre, Chesterfield Royal Hospital
Dundee Midwifery unit, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	The Exeter Low Risk Birth Unit, Royal Devon and Exeter Wonford Hospital
The Midwife Led Unit, Liverpool Women's Hospital	The Midwife Led Unit, Royal Hallamshire Hospital
The Midwife Led Unit, Russells Hall Hospital	The Midwifery Led Unit, South West Acute Hospital
The Midwifery-led unit, Downe Hospital	Rosie Birth Centre, The Rosie Hospital
Wantage Midwifery Led Unit, Wantage Community Hospital	

Closing soon! Take part now!

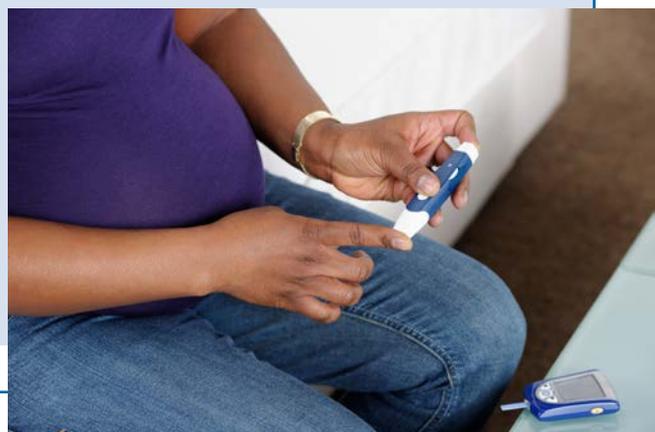
AMBeR Study

In February we invited all our reporters to take part in the AMBeR Survey, which aims to collect information about how midwifery units have tried to reach, engage with and improve care for racialised women. If you haven't done so already, there is still time to complete it! We have so far received a response from 98 (50%) of units taking part in our studies, which is lower than usual for this kind of survey. If you haven't already done so, **please send us your response!**



Closed - Diabetes Study

We have recently stopped collecting data for the Diabetes Study and we will start analysing the data soon. This means that you won't be chased for any outstanding data for this study, and you can focus on reporting and data entry for the Advanced Maternal Age Study. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Diabetes Study. We are hoping we will be able to share the results with you soon.



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



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.

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Royal College
of Midwives

