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PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Diagnostic technology in Community-based Midwifery Care: Midwives' knowledge, experiences and perceptions

Researchers from the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences and Oxford Brookes University would like to invite you to take part in our research study. Before you decide, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Please take time to read this information, and discuss it with others if you wish. If anything is unclear, or if you would like more information, please ask us.

What is the purpose of the study?

In the UK, all pregnant women, regardless of their medical complexities, have a significant proportion of their maternity care in community-based midwifery settings (NICE 2016). Currently 2-3% of women have home births, where rapid decision-making maybe required regarding transfer of care. The UK maternal mortality rate is 8.2 deaths per 100,000 live births, which is higher than several European countries. Novel technology could be part of the solution to offering improved maternity care, but in order to design and implement new or improved tests which are fit for purpose in community settings, we need to learn from the experience of practicing midwives.

Why have I been invited?

In this study we want to hear midwives thoughts on community-based diagnostic technology. Diagnostic technology includes tests on bodily fluids, imaging, wearables, digital technology, and smart phone apps. Broadly we would like your opinion on:

- What is already available, and your opinion on existing tests and how they could improve pathways of care
- What is missing, and would be helpful

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We are aiming to reflect a diverse range of national opinions and variation in practice, across different community-based clinical settings.

Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Consenting midwives must have current or previous experience of working in community-based settings. They must be able to take part in an interview conducted in English, and consent to the interview being recorded. Participants must be aged between 21 and 70 years.

What will happen to me if I decide to take part?

- If you decide to take part, let us know using the contact details listed.
- The study researcher will then be in touch by email or telephone.
- They will ask you consent to being involved in the study. If the interview is face to face, you will be asked to sign a consent form and will be given a copy to keep. If you are interviewed by telephone, an oral record of consent will be taken.
- The researcher will then interview you about diagnostic technology in community-based midwifery care.
 - You will have a choice about when and where this will happen. It could be face-to-face or over the telephone, at a time and date agreed by you. Face-to-face interviews will be conducted in a location of your choosing, but will not take place on NHS premises.
 - The interview will be audio recorded and transcribed.
 - It will take about half an hour of your time.

What are the possible benefits and disadvantages of taking part?

- Being interviewed will involve you giving up some of your time.
- Although you might not benefit directly from the study, many people find offering feedback a positive experience. The information gained may prove to be of benefit to midwives and patients in the future.

Will I be reimbursed for taking part?

We are pleased to offer you a £20 gift card in recognition of the time you will give up to assist us in this study. You will also be given a certificate for your NMC revalidation portfolio.

Do I have to take part?

No. You can ask questions about the research before deciding whether or not to take part. If you do agree to take part, you may withdraw yourself from the study at any time, without giving a reason by advising us of this decision.

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What will happen if I don't want to carry on with the study?

If you withdraw, your interview will only be included in the study if the audio-recording has already been transcribed and de-identified.

What happens to the data provided?

The information you provide during the study is the **research data**. Any research data from which you can be identified (name, age, work setting, the original audio recording and its transcription) is known as **personal data**.

Personal data will be stored on a password protected computer in the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences. Contact information (e.g. name, telephone number) will be stored only for the length of time needed to conduct study activities.

Audio-recordings will be securely transferred to an approved transcription company, which guarantees that information in the transcripts will remain confidential. On return to the researcher, the transcripts will be checked against the audio recordings and any identifying information will be removed from the transcripts.

Data relating to individual participants (years of experience and work place setting) will be labelled with an identifier. The identifier key will be stored separately and securely on a password-protected computer in the NDPCHS. This will not include the participant's name or contact details. This will be stored for at least 3 years following the publication or public release of the work.

Other research data (including consent forms, audio recordings and transcripts) will be stored for at least 3 years after publication or public release of the work of the research.

The research team and transcriber will have access to the research data. Responsible members of the University of Oxford may be given access to data for monitoring and/or audit of the research.

We would like your permission to use direct quotes anonymously in any research outputs.

We would like your permission to use anonymised data in future studies, and to share data with other researchers (e.g. in online databases). All personal information that could identify you will be removed or changed before information is shared with other researchers or results are made public.

What will happen to the results of this study?

We will publish the study findings through journal articles, reports, presentations and conference papers. You will be able to access them on the Medtech and In vitro diagnostics Co-operatives (MIC) website. You will not be able to be identified in any written or verbal reports from the study.

Who is organising and funding the study?

The research is being organised and funded by the NIHR (National Institute for Health Research) Medtech and In vitro diagnostics Co-operatives (MIC)..

Who has reviewed the study?

This study has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through, the University of Oxford Central University Research Ethics Committee (Reference number: R66855/RE001).

What if there is a problem?

If you have a concerns about any aspect of this study, please contact Senior Researcher, Dr Margaret Glogowska on **+44 (0)1865 617872**, and she will do her best to answer your query. We will acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how it will be dealt with. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the Chair of the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Oxford who will seek to resolve the matter as soon as possible: Chair, Medical Sciences Inter-Divisional Research Ethics Committee; Email: ethics@medsci.ox.ac.uk; Address: Research Services, University of Oxford, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD.

Further information and contact details:

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Thank you for your time and consideration.