

NEWSLETTER

April 2025



This quarter saw continued progress on the **data sharing agreement (DSA)** with three more signatories added since the previous newsletter. The final signatures are expected in the coming weeks. In anticipation of this, work has begun on developing reports to gain insights across the network on the outcomes of mothers with diabetes.

We are excited to share that we have been working on **patient experience videos** for mothers who require admission to ITU post birth and are therefore separated from their babies. The first part of filming took place in March and the videos will be added to our website and shared in due course. They aim to provide a fantastic resource for women who may be concerned about this separation. We will also be using these videos in training for non-maternity clinicians to raise awareness and understanding.

We have continued to work on the **WMMN website** and have been updating both the sections **for women [click here](#)** and **health professionals [click here](#)**. The professionals site provides information on how to refer, current guidance, information on pre-conception care and future training schedules. We are waiting on the Healthier Together website to update and will then provide you with smart QR codes to share with women and colleagues. If there is additional information you would like to see on the website please let us know.

Our first **case sharing conference** of 2025 was well attended. We had an endocrine theme and had trainees from around the region presenting the cases. Our next case conference will be in July and will have a neurosurgical theme. Please contact us if you have any interesting case to share.

We are currently in the very early stages of planning a **stakeholder event** which will give us an opportunity to share our vision with clinicians outside of maternity in order to achieve more network awareness and continued growth. We are keen to capture strategic lead contacts from ED, critical care and general medicine and would appreciate your input with this.

Obstetrics

We would like to say a big welcome back to Helen Perry who has returned from maternity leave. We have been working on the epilepsy pathway and this was sent out for final consultation last week. Planning also continues behind the scenes for our joint obstetric and cardiac business and network meeting which will take place in May.

Midwifery

Again we have been working hard on training around the region and have plans for training in Portsmouth from April alongside ongoing training in HHFT and Salisbury. Thank you for providing us with links to clinicians outside of maternity for training. We will continue to develop these links over the next year so please feel free to provide us with additional contacts in primary and secondary care who would like to network with us regarding training. Maternal Medicine for Midwives in March was a success, our next date for training is in November.

Obstetric Physicians

Matthew Coleman is officially finishing as Wessex Obstetric Physician in mid-May. Process for national advertisement and recruitment is currently in progress. Please circulate this exciting opportunity to support the maternal medicine centre in Southampton and maternal medicine throughout Wessex region to your medical consultant colleagues, if you have an opportunity.

Network Referrals

ALL maternal medicine referrals and advice requests should be sent to:

WessexObstetricMedicine@uhs.nhs.uk

(or **ANC.Cardiac@uhs.nhs.uk** for cardiac)

Referral template will follow but for now please include NHS no and relevant information in all emails

MDT's

- Network clinicians and trainees are welcome, contact us for links:
- **Cardiac (operational only)** Monthly, first Thursday, 1500.
 - **Haematology:** Monthly, third Monday, 1400 (**please ensure referral forms are completed for all new referrals**)
 - **Asthma & Difficult Airways:** Monthly, fourth Thursday, 0900
 - **Endocrinology & Diabetes:** Weekly, Wednesdays, after PM clinic

Additional Learning

We are pleased to share details of two learning opportunities below which may be of interest.

King's Health Partners post-grad short course called 'Essential Knowledge of Obstetric Medicine' which aims to address the knowledge gaps that contribute to poor outcomes and indirect causes of maternal death. For more information click [here](#)

Multi-disciplinary approaches to maternal health elfh programme. For more information click [here](#)

Diary Dates

- **20th May:** Joint Cardiac Study Day & Business Meeting
 - **4th July:** Network Business Meeting
 - **14th July:** Case Sharing Conference - Neuro theme
- To book onto any of our events please contact natalie.chapple@uhs.nhs.uk**