

NMPA

National Maternity & Perinatal Audit



Information for women who have
a baby in an NHS maternity unit
in Scotland after 1st April 2014



All maternity units in Scotland are taking part in a national clinical audit called the National Maternity and Perinatal Audit (NMPA).

What is an audit?

A clinical audit is a way to find out if healthcare is being provided in line with standards. It lets care providers and patients know where their service is doing well, and where there could be improvements. The aim is to allow quality improvement to take place where it will be most helpful and will improve outcomes for patients.

What is the purpose of this audit?

The aim of the NMPA is to study how care for mothers and babies is carried out in England, Scotland and Wales using a range of measures. It will make it easier for maternity service providers to monitor the care they provide and compare it with other similar providers. The audit will include information about all mothers who have a baby after 1st April 2014.

Who will benefit from this audit?

Mothers and babies in the future will be helped by this clinical audit as each maternity service provider will receive reports comparing the quality of maternity care it offers with other providers, and guidance about ways to improve its services.

What information will the audit use?

After people receive treatment in hospital (for example women receiving maternity care during the birth of their baby), a summary record of that care is sent to the NHS National Services Scotland, Information Services Division (ISD). ISD is part of the health service in Scotland. ISD will provide relevant records to the audit team. Only anonymised records will be provided: patients' names and other potentially identifying information such as full postcode will not be provided.



Will personal identifiable data be used?

No. The audit team will only receive anonymised records. The audit team will never attempt to identify anyone from the information they are given. Nothing in the audit reports or the way they are used will show any information which could lead to you or your baby being identified.

How do I know the information will be kept securely?

Information will be stored securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act and other relevant legislation. Only the audit team will have access to it.

Will women using maternity services be involved in the design of the audit?

A number of organisations representing women using maternity services are involved in the design and implementation of the audit.

Will women using maternity services have access to the audit results?

Women using the maternity services and the general public will have access to all NMPA reports and plain English summaries via the NMPA website (www.maternityaudit.org.uk).

General questions about the audit?

If you would like to know more about our work please visit the audit website where you can also subscribe to the email newsletter for regular audit updates: www.maternityaudit.org.uk Alternatively you can email us at nmpa@rcog.org.uk or telephone us on 020 7772 6498.

Further questions about how your records are used in the audit?

To be really effective, and to give a true picture of the outcomes of care in all services, the audit needs information from all women using maternity services wherever possible. If you have further questions about how your records are being used for the audit, please contact ISD's information governance team on NSS.PHInfgovernance@nhs.net or phone ISD on 0131 275 6000 and ask to speak to ISD's Caldicott Guardian. The Caldicott Guardian is a senior doctor who makes sure that ISD uses patients' records in a fair way that respects patient confidentiality.



Who will be carrying out this project?

The NMPA is commissioned by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) on behalf of NHS England, the Welsh Government and the Health Department of the Scottish Government. It is being carried out by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) in partnership with the Royal College of Midwives, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Further information

If you would like to know more about our work please visit the audit's website:



www.maternityaudit.org.uk

The Frequently Asked Questions page on our website covers more details on how your information is kept secure. It can be found at:

<http://www.maternityaudit.org.uk/pages/faqs>

Alternatively you can contact us at:



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