



Maternity & Neonatal Bulletin

November 2025

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent guidelines, reports, research and best practice on Maternity and Neonatal

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Maternity

BMJ Best Practice updates

- [Assessment of recurrent miscarriage](#)
- [Ectopic pregnancy](#)
- [HIV in pregnancy - Symptoms, diagnosis and treatment](#)

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UK guidelines

British HIV Association (BHIVA): [Guidelines on the management of HIV in pregnancy and the postpartum period](#)

Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (RCOG): [Management of Impacted Fetal Head at Caesarean Birth \(2025 Second Edition\)](#)

International guidelines

Endocrine Society and European Society of Endocrinology: [Preexisting Diabetes and Pregnancy](#)

Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO): [Narrative guideline on pregnant and peripartum extracorporeal membrane oxygenation](#)

FIGO

- [Good practice recommendations: Assisted vaginal birth and the second stage of labor](#)
- [Good practice recommendations: Vaginal birth after cesarean section](#)
- [Position statement on surrogacy: Ethical considerations](#)
- [Statement on respectful care: Addressing disrespectful maternity care](#)

International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology (ISUOG):
[Consensus statement on maternal hemodynamic assessment in hypertensive disorders of](#)



[pregnancy and fetal growth restriction](#)

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Consult Series #73: [Diagnosis and management of right and left heart failure during pregnancy and postpartum](#)

Cochrane reviews

- [Immediate or early skin-to-skin contact for mothers and their healthy newborn infants](#)

Maternity services

This [report from NHS England sets out the key findings from the comprehensive infrastructure review of maternity and neonatal services](#). It also highlights ways to enhance patient and staff experience and improve services for women, babies and their families – giving children the very best start in life.

Hofmeyr, G.J., et al. 2025. **Achieving Equitable Access to Obstetric Devices Through Innovation, Improvisation and Off-Label Use.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Weeks, A.D., et al. 2025. **The UK Maternity Crisis: Analysing the Underlying Causes to Find Solutions.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Widdows, K., et al. 2025. **Evaluating the implementation of the Saving Babies Lives Care Bundle Version 2 from service user and healthcare professionals' perspectives: A questionnaire study.** *BMJ open quality*, 14(3), p.e003456. Available here: [BMJ Open Quality](#)

Workforce & education

The [General Medical Council \(GMC\) and Nursing and Midwifery Council \(NMC\) have published new resources to help healthcare professionals deliver inclusive, high-quality maternity care](#). The GMC's new ethical hub focuses on five key areas: teamwork, communication, treatment options, escalation, and inequalities.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust provides [structured six-week block placements for second-year T Level students in Eastbourne Maternity Unit](#). Clear guidance on observational, supervised, and participatory skills ensures students contribute meaningfully while gaining valuable experience across maternity services.

Kitson-Reynolds, E., et al. 2025. **Interprofessional education with medical and midwifery students: a prospective evaluation.** *British Journal of Midwifery*, 33(10), pp.558-565. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Saxton, O., 2025. **Midwives as scholars and leaders: being an advocate when women choose care outside of guidance.** *British Journal of Midwifery*, 33(9), pp.518-524. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Equality, diversity and inclusion

Al-Mubarak, A., et al. 2025. **The Impact of Culture on Access to and Utilisation of Maternity Care Amongst Muslim Women in High-Income Countries: A Qualitative Systematic Review.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)



Geddes-Barton, D., et al. 2025. **Ethnic Disparities in Severe Maternal Morbidity and the Contribution of Deprivation: A Population-Based Causal Analysis.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Geddes-Barton, D., et al. 2025. **Maternal and Infant Outcomes for Women Experiencing Homelessness Before and During Pregnancy: A Retrospective Cohort Study.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Hindes, I., et al. 2025. **Inequalities in Preterm Birth in England: A Retrospective National Cohort Study Focusing on Deprivation and Ethnicity, Using Routinely Collected Maternity Hospital Data.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Moxon, S.G., et al. 2025. **Nothing About Us Without Us: Consolidating Experiences of Maternity Care to Advance Equity.** *BJOG*, 132(13), p.1945. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Sorrenti, S., et al. 2025. **Interventions to Address Disparities in Perinatal Outcomes by Ethnicity: A Systematic Review.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Mental health

Kang, S., et al. 2025. **Antipsychotic continuation during pregnancy and risk of postpartum relapse in women with schizophrenia: nationwide register-based study.** *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, pp.1-8. Available here: [British Journal of Psychiatry](#)

Pisavadia, K., et al. 2025. **Healthcare use and costs of perinatal anxiety: a UK NHS perspective.** *BMC Health Services Research*, 25(1), p.1183. Available here: [BMC Health Services Research](#)

Worrall, S., et al. 2025. **Evaluating the Government response to the House of Lords inquiry into preterm birth: A commentary on the gaps in maternal mental healthcare.** *BJOG*, 132(13), p.1931. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Antenatal care

Emam, D., et al. 2025. **Usefulness and timing of the third-trimester ultrasound scan: a review of guidelines and underlying evidence.** *Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, pp.1-15. Available here: [Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics](#)

King, O., 2025. **Barriers to discussing gestational weight and eating disorders with perinatal women.** *British Journal of Midwifery*, 33(11), pp.610-617. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Labre, D.M., et al. 2025. **Addressing domestic violence by obstetric and gynecological resident doctors: pre-post intervention study.** *BMC Medical Education*, 25(1), p.1405. Available here: [BMC Medical Education](#)

McClinchy, J., et al. 2025. **“You Want to Eat Healthy, Especially When You’re Pregnant. But Sometimes, It’s Just Not Possible”: Perceptions of Facilitators and Barriers to**



Healthy Food and Diet Practices During Pre-Conception and Pregnancy. *Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics*, 38(5), p.e70122. Available here: [Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics](#)

Pharmacology

Pettinger, K. et al. 2025. **Shortened Courses of Antenatal Steroids in Preterm Births: An Observational Study.** *BJOG*, pp. 1-8. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Complications - Diabetes

Hurley, A.M., et al. 2025. **Antepartum fetal monitoring in pregnant women with diabetes: A systematic review.** *Pregnancy*, 1(6), p.e70123. Available here: [Pregnancy](#)

Padiyar, R., et al. 2025. **Role of behavioural interventions in managing gestational weight gain in overweight and obese pregnant women: A Scoping Review.** *Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, pp.1-9. Available here: [Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics](#)

Sarno, L., et al. 2025. **Fetal heart rate variability and monitoring in gestational diabetes mellitus: a narrative review.** *The Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*, 38(1), p.2576484. Available here: [Journal of M-F & N Medicine](#)

Waraphok, S., et al. 2025. **The impact of continuous glucose monitoring on glycated hemoglobin in pregnant women with type 1 diabetes: an integrative review.** *The Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*, 38(1), p.2582947. Available here: [Journal of M-F & N Medicine](#)

Complications - Other

Jeyaraman, D., et al. 2025. **Cardiovascular and Renal Outcomes Following Acute Kidney Injury in Pregnancy: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Li, Y., et al. 2025. **Neonatal outcomes among pregnant women with COVID-19: a systematic scoping review and meta-analysis.** *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*, 25(1), p.948. Available here: [BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth](#)

Mooren, E.S., et al. 2025. **Prediction Models for Obstetric Anal Sphincter Injuries (OASIS): A Systematic Review and Critical Appraisal.** *BJOG*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Nakamura, E., et al. 2025. **Early warning systems to predict severe complications during preterm and postpartum: A scoping review.** *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research*, 51(9), p.e70079. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Scott, R., et al. 2025. **Obstetric and Neonatal Outcomes in Pregnancies from a Dedicated Cystic Fibrosis-Maternal Health Service: A Retrospective Study.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)



Zhong, Y.W., et al. 2025. **Management of preterm premature rupture of membranes: Antimicrobial stewardship and novel therapeutic strategies.** *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research*, 51(9), p.e70020. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Labour & birth

Bradley, V., et al. 2025. **How should we communicate information regarding birth choices to women?: An online randomised survey.** *BJOG*, 132(13), pp.2177-2185. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Edwards, J., 2025. **Experiences of instrumental birth.** *British Journal of Midwifery*, 33(9), pp.528-529. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Hernández-Martínez, M.L., et al. 2025. **Clinical Practice Guidelines on Normal Labour and Childbirth: A Systematic Review.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Kingdon, C., 2025. **Informing Decision-Making About Caesarean Birth: A Delphi Study to Develop a Core Information Set.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Li, Y., et al. 2025. **Membrane sweeping in term pregnancy to promote spontaneous labor and prevent post-term pregnancy: a systematic review and meta-analysis.** *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*, 25(1), p.940. Available here: [BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth](#)

Murray, C., et al. 2025. **Women's choices and preferences for subsequent mode of birth following an obstetric anal sphincter injury (OASI): A scoping review.** *Midwifery*, p.104588. Available here: [Midwifery](#)

Patabendige, M., et al. 2025. **Outpatient or Inpatient Setting for Cervical Ripening Before Induction of Labour: An Individual Participant Data Meta-Analysis.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Ryu, G.W. et al. 2025. **A Comparison of Synthetic Osmotic Dilators and Pharmacologic Agents for Cervical Ripening in Induction of Labor: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.** *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Tome, M., et al. 2025. **Revisiting the Value of Admission Cardiotocography in Term Pregnancies: An Updated Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Wakjira, D.B., et al. 2025. **The effect of prenatal yoga and reflexology in reducing labor duration and perceived pain; a systematic review and meta-analysis.** *BMC pregnancy and childbirth*, 25, p.967. Available here: [BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth](#)

Pregnancy loss

Abdul-Mumin, K.H., et al. 2025. **Strengthening self-care following miscarriage:**



empowering women and their partners. *British Journal of Midwifery*, 33(11), pp.642-649. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Bakhtakhi, D., et al. 2025. **A core outcome set for stillbirth care: an international consensus study.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Castilla-Puentes, R., et al. 2025. **Perinatal bereavement rooms: a narrative review of physical space in perinatal grief.** *Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, pp.1-13. Available here: [Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics](#)

Dessole, S., et al. 2025. **Perinatal outcome after single intrauterine death in monochorionic twin pregnancy: systematic review and meta-analysis.** *Ultrasound in Obstetrics & Gynecology*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

MacGregor, B., et al. 2025. **Interventions to Improve Outcomes After Pregnancy Loss: A Systematic Review.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Malory, B., et al. 2025. **Acceptable Nomenclature for Pregnancy Loss Care: A Cross-Sectional Observational Survey.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Postnatal care

In the UK today, too many women face barriers to accessing post-pregnancy contraception (PPC). While high-quality PPC services exist in parts of the country, access remains inconsistent, creating a postcode lottery where many women are left without information enabling them to make an informed choice about PPC. [A new report from the College of Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare set out why action is urgently needed](#) and how system leaders, commissioners, and policymakers can respond. Together, they provide a comprehensive framework for advancing PPC policy and practice across the UK.

Elsmore, A., et al. 2025. **Effects of Race, Ethnicity and Socioeconomic Deprivation on Postpartum Haemorrhage in High-Income Countries: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Gallego-Gómez, C., et al. 2025. **Effects of Training Interventions to Treat Postpartum Urinary Incontinence: A Meta-Analysis.** *BJOG*. Available here: [BJOG](#)

Hallisey, C., 2025. **Managing surgical site infections after caesarean section with Leukomed Sorbact.** *British Journal of Midwifery*, 33(9), pp.497-499. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Robinson, E., et al. 2025. **Community-Based Initiatives to Improve Maternal and Newborn Health in High-Income Settings: A Mixed-Methods Systematic Review.** *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*. Available here: [Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health](#)

Roy, R.B., et al. 2025. **A vaccine emergency—when to overrule parental refusal of vaccination at birth for prevention of vertical transmission of hepatitis B virus?** *Archives of Disease in Childhood*. Available on request:



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Infant feeding

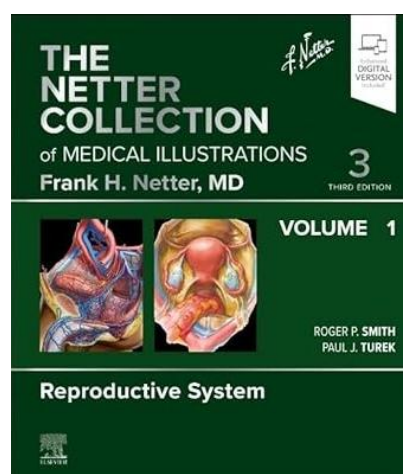
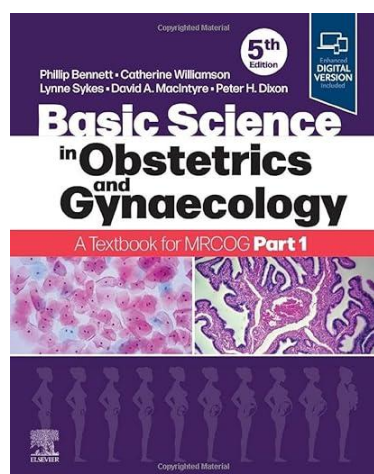
Keane, A., et al. 2025. **European Guidelines on HIV and breastfeeding: “Same, same, but different” - Results from a WAVE survey.** *HIV medicine*, 26(10), pp.1515-1524.
Available here: [HIV Medicine](#)

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[Basic Science in Obstetrics and Gynaecology: A Textbook for MRCOG Part 1](#)

[Netter Collection of Medical Illustrations: Reproductive System](#)





Neonatal

International guidelines

European Resuscitation Council Guidelines: [Newborn Resuscitation and Support of Transition of Infants at Birth](#)

Neonatal services

Leake, N., et al. 2025. **Facilitators and barriers to the practice of neonatal family integrated care from the perspective of healthcare professionals: a systematic review.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available here: [ADC Fetal and Neonatal Edition](#)

General

Khedkar, P., et al. 2025 **Minimisation of blood sampling losses in preterm neonates: a systematic review and meta-analysis.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Monnelly, V., et al. 2025. **Routine pulse oximetry testing for newborn babies: a framework for practice.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Venkateswaran, S., et al. 2025. **Short-Term Outcomes of Early-Term Versus Full-Term and Late-Term Neonates: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.** *BJOG*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Infection

Bethell, G.S., et al. 2025. **Surgeons and neonatologists views about surgical decision-making in necrotising enterocolitis.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available here: [ADC Fetal and Neonatal Edition](#)

Payne, V., et al. 2025. **Alcohol-impregnated port protectors to reduce central line-associated bloodstream infection in the neonatal intensive care unit: a quality improvement study.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Wu, R. 2025. **Meta-analysis of the efficacy of different blue light therapy methods for neonatal jaundice.** *The Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine*, 38(1), p.2430649. Available here: [The Journal of Maternal-Fetal & Neonatal Medicine](#)

Neurology

Bache, A., et al. 2025. **Parental experience of having a child with hypoxic ischaemic encephalopathy: a qualitative study.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Kuitunen, I., et al. 2025. **Umbilical cord management strategies and risk of intraventricular haemorrhage in preterm neonates: a systematic review and meta-analysis.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net



Respiratory

Kaltsogianni O., et al. 2025. **Closed-loop automated oxygen control in preterm ventilated infants: a randomised controlled trial.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Monnelly, V., et al. 2025. **Near-infrared spectroscopy during respiratory support at birth: a systematic review.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Roehr, C.C., et al. 2025. **Video versus direct laryngoscopy for urgent tracheal intubation in neonates: a systematic review and meta-analysis.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available on request: ulth.nhslincslibrary.request@nhs.net

Palliative care

Gallagher, K., et al. 2025. **Outcomes used to measure the clinical application of neonatal palliative and/or end-of-life care in neonatal settings: a systematic review.** *ADC-Fetal and Neonatal Edition*. Available here: [ADC Fetal and Neonatal](#)

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[Avery's Diseases of the Newborn](#)

[Fanaroff and Martin's Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine: Diseases of the Fetus and Infant](#)

[Neonatology Questions and Controversies: Hematology and Transfusion Medicine](#)

[Neonatal Questions and Controversies: Infectious Disease, Immunology, and Pharmacology](#)

[Neonatology Questions and Controversies: Neonatal Hemodynamics](#)

[Neonatology Questions and Controversies: Neurology](#)

[Neonatology Questions and Controversies: Renal, Fluid and Electrolyte Disorders](#)

[Neonatology Questions and Controversies: The Newborn Lung](#)

[Remington and Klein's Infectious Diseases of the Fetus and Newborn Infant](#)

[Volpe's Neurology of the Newborn](#)

