



# Nursing & Midwifery Bulletin

April 2021

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## Nursing

### Royal College of Nursing guidance to help care staff raise and escalate concerns

*In November 2020, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) published a new policy document for healthcare nursing staff entitled Raising and escalating concerns: a guide for nurses, nursing associates, students and healthcare support workers (RCN, 2020).*

British Journal of Healthcare Assistants Vol. 15, No. 3 pp. 144-148

### Hormone replacement therapy: update and practical prescribing

*Peri-menopause and menopause are a normal part of ageing. Nikki Noble gives an overview of hormone replacement therapy and practical prescribing tips.*

Practice Nursing Vol. 32, No. 4 pp. 148-156

### Biofilm and catheter-related bloodstream infections

*Careful attention to detail and adherence to procedure guidelines when inserting and managing intravascular catheters has decreased the incidence of catheter-related bloodstream infections (CRBSIs). In order to limit these, health professionals must understand the underlying microbiology.*

British Journal of Nursing, 30 (8) pp. S4-S9

### A guide to airway management

*This article briefly reviews the anatomy and physiology of the airway before moving on to consider causes of airway obstruction.*

British Journal of Cardiac Nursing, Vol. 16, No. 3 pp. 1-13

### The gastrointestinal system

*Understanding the gastrointestinal system can help to provide care to a range of people in a range of environments, across the life span in a safe and effective way. The article includes a glossary of terms, along with a short quiz that is designed to test understanding and to aid recall.*

British Journal of Healthcare Assistants, Vol. 15, No. 3 pp. 132-137



### [Clinical assessment of the leg for a suspected deep vein thrombosis](#)

*Nurses in all clinical settings need to be able to identify suspected deep vein thrombosis. This article explains the risk factors and how to clinically assess the leg.*  
Nursing Times, April 2021 17 (5) pp. 18-21

## **Midwifery**

### [Serious complications and deterioration in the newborn](#)

*This article discusses some less common and more serious complications and highlights some of the signs that the infant's condition is starting to deteriorate. The focus of the paper is the healthy term infant.*

British Journal of Healthcare Assistants, Vol. 15, No. 3 pp. 110-116

### [Macrolides vs penicillin and potential risk during pregnancy](#)

*There has been some debate about whether particular antibiotics present a risk when used in pregnancy. In early 2020, a study published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ, 2020) found that children of mothers who were prescribed macrolide antibiotics during early pregnancy were at an increased risk of major birth defects, namely heart defects, when compared with children of mothers who received penicillin.*

*Since the potential risk was identified, however, a new study by Worm et al (2021), also published in the BMJ, seems to provide further clarity on the matter. Here we will examine both studies and their findings regarding the potential risk of macrolides during pregnancy.*

Journal of Prescribing Practice, Vol. 3, No. 4 pp.134-135

### [From theory to practice](#)

*Aimi Meen, Senior Midwifery Lecturer at the University of the West of England, analyses current midwifery skills and how they simulate in the 21st century*

British Journal of Midwifery, Vol. 29, No. 4 pp.186-188

### [Part 1: COVID-19 and knowledge for midwifery practice—impact and care of pregnant women](#)

*This integrative review, the first of a two-part series, analyses selected literature on COVID-19 within maternal and newborn care, drawing on key themes relating to the impact on the pregnant woman. The themes discussed are: the nature of the immune system in pregnant and newly birthed mothers, maternal risk, mode and timing of birth, care during pregnancy and childbirth, and the transition to parenthood including the implications for practice for maternal mental wellbeing.*

British Journal of Midwifery, Vol. 29, No. 4 pp. 208-215

## **Best Practice & Guidelines**

### [Multiple Births Midwife Standard](#)

New RCN guidance for midwifery and nursing

30/03/2021



Midwives have an essential role to play in delivering and co-ordinating care for women, partners and families who are experiencing a multiple pregnancy. This standard is intended to provide clear direction for commissioners and managers when creating roles to support best practice and policies in local service provision for women and their families. The skills and knowledge to provide this service are also outlined.

[Maternity services in the UK during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic: a national survey of modifications to standard care](#)

*To explore the modifications to maternity services across the UK, in response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, in the context of the pandemic guidance issued by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG), Royal College of Midwives (RCM) and NHS England.*

British Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, 2021, 128 pp. 880-889

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<https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/page/training/>

#### Online resources

**BMJ Best Practice** is available to all NHS staff. This clinical decision support tool provides step-by-step guidance on diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention of a wide variety of conditions.

<https://bestpractice.bmj.com/oafed>

**ClinicalKey** is a database which supports healthcare professionals by providing access to the latest evidence across specialties.

<https://www.clinicalkey.com/>