

Welcome to our stakeholder newsletter for BUMP. Whether you are a member of staff at one of the Trusts who provide maternity care, a GP colleague, other healthcare professional or a member of a community group, this newsletter is aimed at keeping you informed on the latest news from the BUMP team. Don't forget you can get in touch with us in a number of ways; email project.bump@nhs.net or follow us on twitter @project_bump for the latest news.

Giving women access to information so they can make informed choices about their own and their baby's care

Better Births sets out clearly that a woman should have access to her own electronic record and receive information tailored to her own needs. More recently, the NHS Long Term plan reinforced this as a priority, calling for accelerated moves towards electronic records for mother and her baby. At BUMP, our aim since our conception three years ago has been to introduce a Single Point of Access (SPA). BUMP has worked closely with University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust and Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust and Clevermed, a medical software company, to develop a system that would realise this vision.

Pregnant women to self-refer



Pregnant women can book to see their community midwife without going to see their GP first, thanks to technology introduced by BUMP.

It could save at least 25,000 GP appointments when it is rolled out across our Local Maternity System (LMS) later this year.

Currently 88% of local women book an appointment with their GP, who then refers them to the maternity service. However, women from two GP surgeries in Birmingham are already able to directly refer themselves, removing the need for a GP appointment. For women, the advantages are equally as impressive including a fast track referral to a community midwife as well as having a host of important information at their fingertips at an earlier stage of their pregnancy.

Single Point of Access at a glance

- Pregnant women can self-refer online
- Reduce delays in access to maternity services
- Save GPs appointments
- GP can access to their patient's maternity care history
- Information to follow women throughout their pregnancy journey
- Fast-track to specialist care

Daniel Hill, Managing Partner at BG Health said: *"Giving patients more control of their health and utilising technology to enhance services fits with the ethos of our practice. We are very much looking forward to starting the trial so that pregnant women and the practice can enjoy the advantages of BUMP."*

Green Maternity Notes a thing of the past

Pregnant women across parts of Birmingham and Solihull are amongst the first in the country to access their maternity health records digitally.

The app is enabling local women to see their pregnancy information, blood test results, details of appointments - all at the touch of a button.

The information is linked in real-time from the hospital-based maternity systems, so women know that the information is up to date.

It means that the traditional green maternity hand-held notes, which had to be kept and carried by pregnant women at all times, are now a thing of the past.

The new app which can be accessed either through a tablet device or a smart phone can be used anywhere that there is internet connection - providing invaluable for women who become ill while on holiday or away from their local maternity unit.

The maternity notes app is available to pregnant women whose maternity care is provided by either Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust or University Hospitals Birmingham Foundation NHS Trust and is accessed



with a unique log-in which is provided by their midwife.

Mary Passant, Programme Manager for BUMP said: *"I am delighted that local women are amongst the first in the country to have the convenience of accessing their notes digitally. Over the coming months, people can expect to see more and more content added to the app which will make it an even more valuable resource for pregnant women."*

The app is powered by BadgerNet, which is a secure platform used by midwives and other healthcare professionals as the electronic patient care record.

Coming Soon...

Health information and virtual tours set for the future

Over the coming months, the Maternity Notes app will be further developed to include information that pregnant women will find useful. A whole host of leaflets will be available to download on subjects from healthy eating in pregnancy through to safe sleeping advice. Plans also include adding videos which explain neonatal care and what happens if a baby is born early. In addition, special virtual tours of the birth centres and maternity units across our Local Maternity System (LMS) will also be available so women can have a look around what is available within our LMS without leaving the comfort of their home.

Single Maternity Record

A single maternity record that spans Birmingham and Solihull is being created. BUMP has been working with Birmingham Women's and Heartlands, Good Hope and Solihull hospitals to create a single maternity record that can be accessed by any of the providers. Using the existing Badgernet system, it will allow clinical staff to view and write to single



maternity record, instead of the current situation where each Trust has its own maternity record and a woman can end up with multiple records if she receives care from more than one Trust.

The three Trusts are currently testing the system and plan to go live in April 2019.

The single record will improve clinical safety as all clinical information will be available to staff wherever they need it; it will also reduce waste and frustration, as women will only be 'booked' once and will no longer be asked the same questions on multiple occasions.

Access is also being made available for other health professionals, in particular GPs and Health Visitors.

Willow Birth Centre Continuity of Carer Trial



A trial to help improve the experience of pregnant women by giving them continuity in their pregnancy and birth has been a fantastic success.

More than 250 women from across east Birmingham opted to have their antenatal appointments from 28 weeks at the Willow Birth Centre at Heartlands Hospital as part of a new initiative to increase continuity of carer. Launched in February 2018, women who were having a complication free pregnancy were offered their antenatal care appointments with midwives in the alongside midwifery led care unit instead of with their community midwives. The result has been that women get to know the team of midwives and maternity support workers and are more likely to know the midwife who cares for them in labour. This has increased the number of women

who have been cared for by someone who was familiar to them.

One new mum said: *"It was really good to be able to see a familiar face when I went into labour. Having appointments in the hospital are a great idea because I got to know the environment long before I had my baby. The staff were fantastic and I can't thank them enough for the care they gave me and my baby."*

Sandra Orton, Director of Operations / Head of Midwifery at UHB said: *"I am so proud of the team who have successfully ran this trial in the Willow Birth Centre. Continuity of carer is important to women and their families and being able to provider this in our Birth Centre is fantastic."*

Extended Homebirth Team will give more choice

Pregnant women across Birmingham and Solihull are set to have more choice over the birth of their baby.

There are plans to develop a Local Maternity System-wide home birth team as a pilot to increase choice and continuity of carer for the women and families across Birmingham and Solihull. Midwives from University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust and the established Homebirth team at Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust will together provide a dedicated homebirth team.

Homebirth is a very safe option for women who are having a straight forward pregnancy and is a great option for women to access true continuity

of carer from a small team that are known to them.

Staffed by highly-skilled midwives and maternity support workers, the friendly team will provide one to one care, giving women opportunity to get to know the team well head of giving birth as they care for them throughout their pregnancy and beyond. Evidence shows that being relaxed, using upright positions for labour and using water all help to make labour and birth more straightforward and less painful which is why giving birth at home, is a good alternative to a birth centre or delivery suite. Women interested in Homebirth should visit the team's website www.bwc.nhs.uk for more information.



Continuity of Carer Events

Over 100 midwives, maternity support workers and obstetricians attended two special continuity of carer events in January. Held in Birmingham city centre, the two one day events were an opportunity to hear from leading experts in continuity of carer from the Royal College of Midwives.

Attendees heard about how continuity of carer models work in practice and the

benefits for women, their families and their midwives. The events were an opportunity for staff to share their thoughts and ideas.

The events proved so successful that another two training dates are already fully booked. If you are a health professional within our Local Maternity Service and would be interested in attending a future event please email us project_bump@nhs.net



Link Support Worker role to be developed

BUMP were successful in securing a Health Education England grant to fund the role of Link Support Worker (LSW). Birmingham and Solihull are amongst the most diverse populations in England, and the vision for this role is that it will help women whose first language isn't English to access personalised care, improve safety and provide continuity of carer with Local Support Workers working alongside midwives and obstetricians by providing clear communication routes in the predominant languages to include Urdu, Arabic, Polish and Romanian.

Carbon Monoxide delivered to community midwives across the local maternity system

More than 130 carbon monoxide monitors were delivered across the local maternity system by BUMP as part on an initiative to help reduce smoking in pregnancy. The monitors will be used by community midwives and the Homebirth team during antenatal care. In other areas of the country where carbon monoxide monitoring is well established, there are reports of almost double the number of pregnant women quitting smoking during pregnancy with the support of their midwife. Community Midwife Ronia Nyakunika said: *"I think the carbon monoxide monitors are a great idea because it will enable us to help women who want to quit to get the right support which will have a positive on their health and their baby's health."*

Neonatal Network

The project has appointed a Neonatal Clinical Lead who now chairs the Neonatal Workstream meeting. The group is currently focused on three key developments; Neonatal Critical Care Community Outreach across the LMS, in-utero transfers and the funding of neonatal care across the LMS. We will keep you updated on their work.



Birmingham and Solihull United
Maternity and Newborn Partnership