



## Parents' Active Role & ENgagement in Their Stillbirth/perinatal death review

**Aim: To evaluate healthcare professionals' opinions of the pilot of parental involvement in the perinatal mortality review process (PNMR) at North Bristol NHS Trust and Central Manchester Foundation Trust.**

**Focus group participants:** There will be two focus groups, one at North Bristol NHS Trust and two at Central Manchester Foundation Trust. We will recruit five to ten maternity healthcare professionals and at each site. The focus group for maternity healthcare professionals will include members of staff who were involved in the pilot of the PNMR : senior (more than 5 years' experience) midwives involved in caring for bereaved parents, senior obstetric trainees (ST4-ST7), obstetric consultants, senior neonatology trainees (ST4-ST7), neonatology consultants, perinatal pathologists and senior nursing staff.

**Facilitators:** Researchers with experience in interviews with bereaved parents will facilitate the focus group discussions. A research midwife will also be present to co-facilitate the focus groups. The co-facilitator will help monitor and moderate group dynamics (i.e. help the facilitator bring in individuals who are less vocal and keep control of those who dominate discussion). Focus groups will be held in a quiet private space within each unit. Staff who experience emotional difficulties will be directed to appropriate services e.g. Sands (who provide support services for staff as well as for bereaved parents) or occupational health. Each focus group will run for approximately 90 minutes.

**0 – 10 minutes: - Scene setting**

Introductions - Brief outline about focus and 'rules' for the discussion-

Brief exercise to help focus everyone's minds on experience and context.

Example opening question:

- What was your experience of the pilot of the PNMR with parental involvement?

**10 – 50 minutes: Barriers and Facilitators**

Example prompts:

- In your opinion, what do you think worked well in the pilot of parental involvement in the PNMR process?
- What elements of the pilot of parental involvement in the PNMR process did not work so well?
- What were the facilitators that enabled the delivery of the pilot? (e.g. resources, staff, time)
- What barriers did you encounter in the delivery of the pilot? (e.g. resources, staff, time)

**50 - 75 minutes: Improvements**

Example prompts:

- How could involving parents in the PNMR process be improved?
- Is this something that should be implemented permanently in your hospital and on a national level?
- What training would be required for staff in order to implement the PNMR with parental involvement?

**75 – 90 minutes - Any other issues**

***Facilitator to invite participants for any further comments and suggestions***

**Summary**

Co-facilitator to summarise main discussion points and check that participants agree and whether they wish to add anything else.