



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

Interview schedule for Focus Groups with maternity and neonatal healthcare professionals and stakeholders to understand the feasibility and acceptability of implementing a national Perinatal Mortality Review process that incorporates parental involvement.

Focus group participants: There will be four focus groups overall, two at North Bristol NHS Trust and two at Central Manchester Foundation Trust. We will recruit five to ten maternity healthcare professionals and five to ten stakeholders including clinical directors and commissioners at each site. These focus groups will also include 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:

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10 – 15 minutes: - Setting up for main focus group session

We will provide participants with copies of the data collection record sheet. This document summarises the main areas that the PARENTS study will focus on:

- Current Perinatal Mortality Review Practice
- Parental involvement in the PNMR process

15 – 25 minutes: - CONTEXT: Current Perinatal Mortality Review Practice

Participants will be asked to consider & discuss their understanding of current PNMR practice in their area.

The facilitator will use prompts to encourage participants to elicit their views. Example prompts are in italics.

- Current PNMR practice (e.g. how regular, length of meetings, who attends, how is information prepared & disseminated, how are actions/learning points captured/tracked, what is done with this information)
- What do participants see as the overall purpose of the PNMR process (e.g. for teaching, for individual or institutional learning, to establish what went wrong – if anything, to establish what could be differently in similar cases in future)
- What are the facilitators and barriers to improving current practice (e.g. time, resource, interest)

25 - 75 minutes - MAIN DISCUSSION: Including Bereaved Parents in the Perinatal Mortality Review Process

- Current practice (e.g. do any of the participants already have a system for asking for parental feedback on their care & is this shared as part of the PNMR process)
- What do participants think about the idea of a formalised structure that invites parents to feedback on their care
- What do participants perceive as potential barriers to making this possible (e.g. time, resource, difficulty in answering questions, practical difficulties such as ensuring community staff are also involved in the meetings)
- What do participants believe to be necessary in order to facilitate including parents in the PNMR process (e.g. additional time/resource to manage & prepare, additional appointment time, longer PNMR meetings)

75 – 90 minutes - Summary and any other issues

The facilitator will summarise the discussion and ask for any additional comments not covered, particularly from any participants less vocal in the main discussion

Summary

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