

How is patient centred care affected by giving women the opportunity to write in hand held healthcare notes? A qualitative investigation

Researchers

Professor Vikki Entwistle, Social Dimensions of Health Institute, Universities of Dundee and St Andrews

Dr Heather Whitford, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Dundee

Dr Janet Tucker, School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Aberdeen

Dr Tracey Humphrey, School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Aberdeen

Dr Edwin van Teijlingen, School of Health and Social Care, Bournemouth University

Ms Patricia Sullivan, Social Dimensions of Health Institute, Universities of Dundee and St Andrews

Ms Tracey Davidson, School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Aberdeen

Background

Patient-centred care - by which we mean care that is respectful of and responsive to the perspectives, values and preferences of individual service users - is a key feature of good quality health care, but one that health services often struggle to deliver consistently. Innovations such as the opportunity that the new Scottish Woman Held Maternity Record (SWHMR) offers to women to write in (co-construct) their maternity care notes have potential to promote patient-centred care, but it is unclear whether and in what circumstances they do so in practice. This exploratory and longitudinal qualitative study will investigate these issues by interviewing diverse samples of women and staff about their views and experiences relating to the co-construction of maternity care notes, and about their views and experiences relating to key aspects of patient-centred care. Analyses will identify contextual factors that moderate the ways in which co-constructed records affect patient-centred care.

Aims of Study

To explore how pregnant women and staff view and experience the opportunity for women to write in (co-construct) their pregnancy record and to consider how this relates to the provision of woman-centred maternity care.

Methods of Working

This is an exploratory qualitative study with a longitudinal dimension. We will use semi-structured interviews 31 to explore the views of (a) women and (b) staff. Women will be interviewed at two time points, towards the end of their pregnancy and then after the birth, because their views about the extent to which their perspectives, values and preferences were attended to may change in the light of events during childbirth.

Funding

The project was funded by the Chief Scientist Office

For more information about this project- contact Vikki Entwistle (v.entwistle@cpse.dundee.ac.uk)