



Promoting · Supporting · Influencing

Job Description and Person Specification

Re:Birth Project Research Fellow

Responsibility level	Advisory
Grade	F
FTE	0.4
Permanent work location	Home office based
Reporting and accountable to	The RCM's Director for Professional Midwifery
Line management responsibilities	None
Travel requirements	

Role outline

The RCM's 'Re:Birth' Research Fellow will undertake and develop a research project, to support the RCM's 'Re:Birth' Project in close collaboration with the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG).

The 'Re:Birth' Research Fellow will undertake research into key issues around the narrative of different types of birth in the UK. The postholder will engage with a diverse range of key stakeholders to explore how problems with the narrative can be addressed, with the aim to reach a consensus position.

The postholder will work closely with the Director of Professional Midwifery, the RCM's 'Re:Birth' Project Implementation Group, and their colleagues across Team RCM, to develop and complete this research project and focusing on 3 key research questions.

The 3 key research project questions are:

- What nomenclature for different types of birth can be agreed for use in UK maternity services?
- How can the benefits and risks of different types of birth be best described and discussed between maternity professionals and service users, to enable pregnant women to make informed choices about their planned type of birth?

- What shared term would be most acceptable to all key stakeholders to describe the birth aim of maternity services for all women in their care? For example, 'positive birth', 'optimal birth' or 'good birth'.

The postholder will use their research findings to co-produce clinical practice guidance to support discussions between maternity professionals and maternity service users about birth choices. This guidance will include nomenclature for types of birth, and risks and benefits of different types of birth.

The postholder will also author and co-author publications, including academic journal papers, on the outcome and narrative.

The postholder will report to and be accountable to the RCM's Director of Professional Midwifery.

The postholder will also be accountable to the 'Re:Birth' Project Implementation Group regarding the progress of the research project.

Responsibilities

- A. Project manage the RCM's 'Re:Birth' project, within planned timelines
- B. Develop specific research aims and objectives, and develop research methods
- C. Undertake consensus building research activity including chairing meetings, lead discussions and de-escalate emotive exchanges
- D. Collect and analyse data from a range of research participants, with support from the Director of Professional Midwifery and colleagues in the Project Implementation Group
- E. Regular reporting on the progress of the research project
- F. Co- author the project report with the RCM Director of Professional Midwifery
- G. Author and co-author publications on the consensus position outcome and narrative, and be the lead author of academic journal papers
- H. Co-produce clinical practice guidance resources for maternity service professionals around birth narrative, to support their discussions with maternity service users about birth choices
- I. Ensure compliance with relevant Data Protection legislation
- J. Participate within a cross functional team working environment
- K. Contribute towards and live the RCM Staff Team Vision

Person Specification

- A. A PhD in a relevant health, psychology, or social science subject
- B. Demonstrated experience in undertaking qualitative research in a variety of subjects
- C. Knowledge and skills in use of appropriate qualitative data analysis tools
- D. Robust understanding of quantitative research methods and systematic literature review processes
- E. Experience and record of publishing and presenting research findings
- F. Skilled in consensus building research methods
- G. Experience in working with a diverse range of stakeholders



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- H. Able to effectively challenge during discussion with sensitivity and tact, in relation to deeply held beliefs around this subject
- I. Experience in managing a project
- J. A midwife with a current registration with the NMC (desirable)

Team RCM Skills

- A. Strong IT skills including proficiency in Microsoft Office
- B. Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- C. The ability to be flexible and adaptable
- D. A focus on performance and output
- E. A high level of commitment
- F. The ability to take responsibility and to deliver in a timely fashion
- G. Cross functional team working
- H. Managing competing priorities

The post holder may be required to carry out other duties as are within the scope, spirit, and purpose of the job.