



Maternity Services

Nurture Update June 2013

Name of Responsible NHS Body: Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust

Brief description

The maternity service is now in year 3 of a far reaching development programme. This is the second update on progress to HOSP.

All changes have been implemented and the structure of the project has changed (appendix 1)

Summary

Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust maternity service is a large complex service caring for more than 6200 mothers and babies each year. Nurture has led to many changes around the 3 priorities of one to one care in labour, care in partnership with others and a focus on improving outcomes for vulnerable families.

In 2013 almost 30% of mothers have their baby off the main labour ward with a choice of place of birth: home, Portsmouth Maternity Centre (PMC) and the Mary Rose at QA. This has led to a reduction in caesarean rates and a normal birth rate at 8% higher than the national average. Women have one to one care in labour as the service is now integrated and flexible.

The service has engaged with the Prebirth to 5 strategy, sanctioned by the Childrens' Trust Board. Midwives and Health Visitors now deliver care in Children's Centres around G.P populations. This has improved family centred care, and multidisciplinary communication and care planning for vulnerable families.

Most notably care has become much more community based with antenatal care and education, births, postnatal and breastfeeding support at PMC for a wide population of women. There is also focused support for teenagers at PMC and the service is a joint commissioner for the Family Nurse Partnership (focused support for pregnant teenage parents until the child is 2 years old). Vulnerable women can more easily access services and have multidisciplinary support.

Feedback from parents is key for further service development. All mothers have a follow up phone call from the service at 6 weeks after birth. They report overwhelming satisfaction with the service. However if a mother reports any dissatisfaction about the care, a midwife will review their maternity records and offer to see them personally. In a recent pilot of the friends and family question 95.5% of mothers said they were likely or very likely to recommend the service to family and friends.

The focus for 2013/14 is embedding the changes, evaluation and launching 'Nurturing us' a new programme of staff development.