

Approaches to addressing domestic violence during pregnancy

In response to increased awareness that pregnancy is a high risk time for domestic violence, this conference will highlight practical developments and provide detailed case studies and examples of good practice adopted by a range of organisations to address this issue. It will include a review of the Department of Health's new Domestic Violence Toolkit.

23 June 2005
King's College London

Guy's and St Thomas' 
NHS Foundation Trust



The National Childbirth Trust

KING'S
College
LONDON

University of London



Royal College of
Obstetricians and
Gynaecologists

Setting standards to improve women's health

 *Department
of Health*

Purpose of the conference

While the police cite pregnancy as a significant heightened risk factor for female homicide, the relatively high incidence of domestic violence against women during pregnancy and just after childbirth is only slowly being recognised by wider health and social care professionals.

The Maternity Unit of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, in co-operation with King's College London, is a recognised leader in the UK in addressing domestic violence in the context of pregnancy and childbirth.

Following the National Service Framework for children, young people and maternity services published in September 2004, the Maternity and Women's Health Team of the Department of Health is currently revising the existing Domestic Violence Resource Manual and will be producing a Toolkit which will be available to all delegates at the conference. It will provide specific guidance on addressing domestic violence as part of maternity care, and examples of where to look for good practice.

If domestic violence during pregnancy is to be addressed effectively, there must be mutual awareness between health and social care professionals and other agencies, including the criminal justice system, which play an essential role in tackling abuse.

This conference aims to provide:

- **approaches which facilitate and encourage disclosure of domestic violence**
- **detailed practical guidance on providing appropriate services and referrals to abused women**
- **an understanding of the dynamics of prosecuting cases of domestic violence, and the new Crown Prosecution Service Domestic Violence Policy (issued February 2005)**
- **knowledge of strategies and wider services available to practitioners to help them react to risk factors and incidents of domestic abuse**
- **Examples of effective health care and multi agency interventions to address domestic violence during pregnancy**

Who should attend

- Midwives, community nurses and health visitors
- Maternity Service Liaison Committee members
- Domestic Violence Fora
- Directors of Clinical Services and Nursing
- Obstetricians and GPs
- Accident & Emergency nurses and doctors
- Mental health practitioners, especially perinatal
- Directors of Public Health and Health Improvement
- Social services child protection teams
- Police and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships - community, family services and domestic violence experts
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Sure Start staff
- Government departments responsible for maternity health care and domestic violence
- Representatives from organisations concerned with childbirth, domestic violence and early years child welfare

Certificates of attendance will be issued.

Agenda (subject to change)

- 9.30 - 10.10 Coffee and registration
- 10.10 - 10.15 **Welcome to conference** from Dr Gillian Aston, Midwife, and Lecturer/Research Associate, King's College London and Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery
- 10.15 - 10.25 **Chair's introduction** from Dr Loraine Bacchus, Research Associate, King's College London, Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
- 10.25 - 10.50 **Domestic violence in pregnancy – what problem? And whose problem is it anyway?**
Dr Susan Bewley, Consultant Obstetrician, Maternal & Fetal Medicine Specialist, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
- 10.50 - 11.00 Questions
- 11.00 - 11.25 **How health professionals can create a strong evidence base**
Tivoli Wallington, Domestic Violence Policy Advisor, Criminal Justice Policy Directorate, Crown Prosecution Service
- 11.25 - 11.35 Questions
- 11.35 - 12.05 Coffee and networking
- 12.05 - 1.05 **Using the Toolkit: getting domestic violence good practice embedded in maternal care services**
Christine Mann, Maternity and Women's Health Team, Department of Health and Alison Whitham, Midwifery and Gynaecology Manager, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust
- 1.05 - 2.05 Lunch and networking
- 2.05 - 3.05 **Workshops - first session (workshops run twice allowing delegates to attend two)**
See below for further details.
- 3.05 - 3.30 Tea
- 3.30 - 4.30 **Workshops - second session** (see below)
- 4.30 Close of the conference
- 4.30 - 5.00 Wind down session - an optional and informal opportunity to tackle speakers or continue networking over tea and a snack.

Technical advisers to the programme: Dr Gillian Aston, King's College London; Dr Loraine Bacchus, King's College London/Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust; Dr Susan Bewley, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust.

Workshops

1 - Health practitioners and community police: joint action to make women safer - DC Yvonne Rhoden and DS Sharon Stratton, Racial and Violent Crimes Task Force, Metropolitan Police. Practical measures which can improve detection and increase protection for pregnant women.

2 - Challenges of working across boundaries - Sally Jackson, Manager of Hidden Violence & Abuse Unit, Portsmouth City Council. The benefits - and difficulties - of working in a multi-agency environment using the example of Portsmouth Early Intervention Project at St Mary's Hospital which links Accident & Emergency and Midwifery services, with wider community safety partnerships.

3 - Engaging management support to make lasting service improvements - Alison Whitham, Midwifery and Gynaecology Manager, and Alison Greenwood, Community Midwifery Co-ordinator, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust. A case study of training for midwives in routine enquiry, started without any additional funding, which has now become part of mainstream services.

Workshops continued...

4 - **Getting the most from routine enquiry** - Kathleen Baird, Senior Midwifery Lecturer, University of the West of England and Sally Price, Consultant Midwife, North Bristol NHS Trust. The benefits of domestic violence training for midwives, and the advantages and challenges of routine enquiry.

5 - **Supporting the victims of domestic violence through advocacy** - Zee Asif, Training Coordinator; Katrina Gill and Jo Kernon, Advocacy Workers, MOZAIC Project, Women Against Domestic Violence (170 Community Project) in partnership with Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust. A case study of MOZAIC, a community led, multi-agency and multi-faceted intervention initiative.

6 - **Understanding the overlap between domestic violence and mental health issues** - Jackie Barron, Health Project Worker, Women's Aid. How a woman's mental health can be used by an abusive partner, and how it may influence service provider perceptions of her.

7 - **Applied research - challenges and opportunities**

- Domestic violence in Accident & Emergency settings - Dr Adrian Boyle, Accident & Emergency Department, Addenbrookes NHS Trust
- Progress through evaluating complex domestic violence interventions in maternity settings – Dr Loraine Bacchus, Research Associate, King's College London and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, and Dr Gillian Aston, Midwife and Lecturer, King's College London.

Delegate fee

Full rate (all organisations other than registered charities): £165.00 + VAT £28.88, total £193.88.

Reduced rate (registered charities only): £100.00 + VAT £17.50, total £117.50. The number of reduced rate places is limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

The delegate fee includes lunch, all refreshments and a delegate pack, which will include a copy of the Toolkit.

To make a booking

A booking form is enclosed with this programme, which contains full terms and conditions of booking. Once completed, please return the form to Central Conference Consultants Ltd.

Fax the booking form to 0115 916 3106

Or post it to Central Conference Consultants Ltd, 23 Barratt Lane, Attenborough, Nottingham NG9 6AD.

Please highlight on your form any special requirements such as diet or access. Please also ensure that you have selected two workshops.

If you have not received an acknowledgement of your booking form within seven days, please telephone 0115 916 3104 to ensure that your details have been received.

Venue

The conference takes place at Franklin Wilkins Building, King's College London, 150 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NH. The nearest underground stations are Waterloo and Westminster. The area is within the Congestion Charge zone, and the nearest car park is at Upper Ground, by the National Theatre.

Directions and details of nearby accommodation will be sent to delegates when their booking is confirmed.

Enquiries

Exhibition space and the opportunity to include inserts in delegate packs are available. For these, or any other queries you may have, please contact:

**Central Conference Consultants Ltd on
0115 916 3104 or email ccclimited@aol.com**

