

Women's Health
Maternity Unit

MATERNITY SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12 September 2005

Present:	Kerry Harris	Chair
	Jane Pickett	Community Midwife
	Lenny Hide	Supervisor of Midwives
	Natasha Wynne	Lay member
	Sandra Campbell	Health Visitor
	Theresa Spink	Acting Head of Midwifery
	Trisha Whisker	NCT
	Gail Soliman	Notetaker

Apologies:	Arash Bahmaie	Consultant Obstetrician
	Jabeen Qureshi	Health Link Worker
	Mary Bell	Consultant Midwife
	Gillian Smith	TAMBA
	Frances Harvey	Lay member

Kerry welcomed Lenny to her first meeting representing supervision.

1 Minutes of the last meeting / Matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

Mary is arranging for questions to be amended/included in time for next run of the questionnaire starting October 2005.

2 Practice Development Unit

Theresa presented an update to the PDU – focussing on cleanliness, visiting hours and rest period, and orientation on arrival in the ward. Accreditation at level 1 is planned for Tuesday 15 November.

3 Healthroster

The unit were involved in a pilot in January of a computerised staff rota system. The Board decided that this system would be adopted Trust-wide with maternity going live on 18 September. The programme manages annual, sick and study leave and provides valuable reports and allocates according to skill mix. It has already highlighted to the Board the need for an increased establishment with the result that this has been increased by 9 midwives.

4 Postnatal stay in hospital

Increased activity – 352 births in August – coupled with annual holidays and increased sickness has affected the care on Joan Booker.

This has caused problems with regard to medication and the provision of take home medicines. The process now starts in labour ward with the prescription written for both inpatient and take home medicine. Once prescribed the medicine is stored in the individual locked drug locker by the bed from where the midwife provides the drugs as required. Mary is aiming for self medication by April 2006.

Examination of the newborn – 9 midwives are currently taking a course (2 completed) to facilitate discharge, help with 6hour discharge and for home births. A further 6 midwives start the course in January 2006. This improved service is important as an increased birthrate is expected. The use of the baby clinic system has also helped with timely discharge.

The level of care for normal low risk women is different to that required post Caesarean section. Ward managers are looking at putting women in different rooms on JB to facilitate appropriate care.

5 Update on progress of new notes

It has been agreed that we will use the notes designed by the Perinatal Institute which have been adopted by many other units. They have been designed with reference to NICE, CNST and other requirements and have been shown to improve the standard of record keeping. The new notes will be brought in when the current print run is finished, probably around mid November and 5 midwives will be attending training on 29 September. Mary is planning to reduce the two postnatal care plans into one document. (Following the training visit, this may not be necessary as the Perinatal Institute is currently piloting their own version which was considered excellent.)

6 Any other business

- Sandra raised the issue of interpreting when one parent is able to speak and understand English, the other cannot. When discussing problems and abnormalities, it puts extreme pressure on the one parent when they have to interpret.
- There was discussion on postnatal support and the suggestion that contacts should be encouraged within parent education groups. Theresa will discuss this issue with parent education coordinators.
- Ensure midwives write discharge weights in 'red book'
- Care when writing in red book to ensure that 'space' is also space on following pages when carbonised.
- Audit of rooms to be repeated
- Signs on labour ward doors 'please knock' have made a difference

Dates of meetings for 2006

16 January
13 March
15 May
10 July
18 September
13 November

Time	1300 – 1430
Venue	Parent Education, Abbey Wing

September 2005