AIMS For a better birth...

What has the AIMS campaigns team been up to this quarter?

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Other quarterly updates

By the AIMS Campaigns Team

Covid-19:

- With other members of the But Not Maternity Alliance[1] we wrote to all Trusts and boards that were still limiting partners' postnatal attendance to one to two hours a day, asking them to publish their plans for lifting remaining restrictions.
- We updated our 'Coronavirus and your maternity care'[2] web page with the most recent version of the RCOG guidance, the revised rules for Wales and Northern Ireland on visiting in maternity services and the latest research on the impact of Covid-19 on babies.
- We updated the AIMS Birth Information page 'Vaccination During Pregnancy'[3] to include information on the Covid-19 vaccine.

Other written outputs:

- Review of the NMPA (National, Maternity and Perinatal Audit) 'sprint audit' on 'NHS Maternity Care for Women with a Body Mass Index of 30 kg/m^2 or Above'[4].
- We have published six AIMS Position Papers[5] on our website on a variety of key maternity service improvement topics.
- A full review has been undertaken of the draft IDECIDE documentation, offered to members of the Stakeholder Council for review, with comments provided to NHS England. For a good overview of the project, see here: IDECIDE – a new consent tool is on its way[6]
- We have reviewed and commented on the NHS England Equity and Equality pledges and guidance to LMSs (Local Maternity Systems)[7]
- A review has been undertaken of the updated NICE Guideline on Inducing Labour.[8]
- Submitted comments to RCOG for the consultation on their Planned Caesarean Birth consent document.[9]
- A statement has been drafted concerning the nationwide March With Midwives[10] vigil.

Conferences and meetings attended:

- Three AIMS Volunteers attended the MBRRACE-UK Stakeholder Zoom Meeting on the 24th

September 2021.

- We attended the online launch of the 'MBRRACE-UK Perinatal Mortality Surveillance Report UK Perinatal Deaths for Births from January to December 2019'.[11]
- We participated in the regular meeting of the NHS England organised Maternity Transformation Programme Stakeholder Council[12].
- We participated in a meeting of the Royal College of Midwives Re:Birth[13] Project Oversight Group.
- We attended and participated in the **Maternity & Midwifery Hour** online meetings, including the sessions on Continuity of Carer. You can read more about this series of meetings here[14].
- We viewed the Royal Society of Medicine: The OASI Care Bundle[15] conference.
- We attended the ARM Conference 2021: Is Normal Birth Radical?[16]

What we have been reading:

- The Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB) report on intrapartum stillbirths during the pandemic.[17]
- The latest MBRRACE-UK Perinatal Mortality Surveillance Report.[18]
- The NHS Pay Review Body's annual report, published in July.[19]
- The new planning, implementation and monitoring guidance for the roll out of the Continuity of Carer model of care (relational care) at full-scale, published by NHS England in October.[20]
- Dr Lisa Common's summary of the current midwifery workforce crisis.[21]

What we have been watching:

- The new feature-length Birth Time documentary film.[22]
- Two new stunning short films which are available to view on YouTube: The Physiology of Childbirth[23] and Respectful Maternity Care - Know Your Rights[24] – The White Ribbon Alliance. Please watch them – we're sure you'll want to share them.

Thanks to all the AIMS Campaigns volunteers who have made all this work possible. We are very keen to expand our campaigns team work, so please do get in touch with campaigns@aims.org.uk if you'd like to help!

See all Campaign Team updates

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[1] AIMS (2021) We have roadmap for the nation But Not For Maternity. www.aims.org.uk/assets/media/647/press-release-but-not-maternity-march-2021.pdf

[2] AIMS (2021) Coronavirus and your maternity care: www.aims.org.uk/information/item/coronavirus

[3] AIMS (2021) Vaccination During Pregnancy: www.aims.org.uk/information/item/vaccination-during-

pregnancy

[4] AIMS (2021) How does BMI influence maternity care and outcomes? A review of NMPA Audit: NHS Maternity Care for Women with a Body Mass Index of 30 kg/m^2 or Above. AIMS Journal, Vol 33, No 4 Add www.aims.org.uk/journal/item/bmi-maternity-care

[5] AIMS Position Papers: www.aims.org.uk/campaigning/item/positionpapers

[6] Birthrights (2020) IDECIDE – a new consent tool is on its way. www.birthrights.org.uk/2020/01/30/idecide-a-new-consent-tool-is-on-its-way

[7] AIMS (2021) Birth Activists Briefing: NHS England Equity and Equality initiatives. AIMS Journal, Vol 33, No 4 www.aims.org.uk/journal/item/aims-birth-activists

[8] AIMS comments on the draft guideline (June 21) and review can be found here: www.aims.org.uk/campaigning/item/nice-iol-comments

[9] AIMS Comments submitted to RCOG for the consultation on their Planned Caesarean Birth consent document www.aims.org.uk/campaigning/item/rcog-planned-caesarean-birth

[10] AIMS (2021) March With Midwives - AIMS statement.www.aims.org.uk/campaigning/item/march-with-midwives

[11] MBRRACE-UK Perinatal Mortality Surveillance Report UK Perinatal Deaths for Births from January to December 2019 www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrrace-uk/reports#mbrrace-uk-perinatal-mortality-surveillance-report-for-births-in-2019

[12] NHS Maternity Transformation Programme: www.england.nhs.uk/mat-transformation

[13] RCM (2021) Re:Birth project: www.rcm.org.uk/what-is-the-rebirth-project

[14] Maternity & Midwifery Forum (2021) www.maternityandmidwifery.co.uk/the-maternity-and-midwifery-hour

[15] The Royal Society of Medicine (2021) Live stream: The obstetric anal sphincter injury (OASI) Care Bundle: Reviewing the evidence and exploring impact on clinical practice. (This event has now passed) www.rsm.ac.uk/events/maternity-and-newborn/2021-22/mbq50

[16] The Association of Radical Midwives (2021) Is Normal Birth Radical? Conference. (This event has

now passed) www.midwifery.org.uk/event/arm-national-conference-is-normal-birth-radical

[17] HSIB (2021) Intrapartum stillbirth: learning from maternity safety investigations that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic 1 April to 30 June 2020.www.hsib.org.uk/investigations-and-reports/intrapartum-stillbirth-during-covid-19

[18] NPEU (2021) MBRRACE-UK: Perinatal Mortality Surveillance Report - UK Perinatal Deaths for Births from January to December 2019.www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrrace-uk/reports#mbrrace-uk-perinatal-mortality-surveillance-report-for-births-in-2019

[19] GOV.UK (2021) NHS Pay Review Body Thirty-Fourth Report 2021. www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-pay-review-body-thirty-fourth-report-2021

[20] NHS England (2021) Delivering Midwifery Continuity of Carer at full scale: Guidance on planning, implementation and monitoring 2021/22.www.england.nhs.uk/publication/delivering-midwifery-continuity-of-carer-at-full-scale-guidance-21-22

[21] Common L. (2021) It doesn't add up: counting the cost of the midwifery workforce crisis. https://files.constantcontact.com/9bc520cb001/fb926a15-0388-4716-84ca-d072526289e9.pdf

[22] Birth Time video. www.birthtime.world

[23] The Physiology of Birth video. www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaJukSlJFWs

[24] Respectful Maternity Care: Know your rights video.www.youtube.com/watch?v=iUrt3sc4C-o