

## Implement individualised maternity care plans

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### Overview

This standard is about working in partnership with women, key people involved in their care, and other professionals/practitioners to implement individualised care plans. The care plan may be related to antenatal, intrapartum and/or postnatal care of women using maternity services. A caring and compassionate approach should be adopted in line with current healthcare guidance. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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**Performance criteria**

You must be able to:

1. identify services and providers to meet the needs identified in the woman's care plan
2. make arrangements with the service providers to co-ordinate and deliver services identified in the woman's care plan
3. identify any barriers to accessing service providers and take appropriate action to deal with these
4. ensure that service providers have a shared understanding of the woman's needs, required interventions, and agreed goals for the care plan
5. establish effective arrangements for the exchange of information between service providers and yourself, including procedures for emergency situations should they arise
6. confirm details of the care plan with the woman, key people and other practitioners involved, including processes and timescales for reviewing progress
7. work in partnership with the woman, key people and practitioners involved to implement the agreed care plan
8. provide sufficient and appropriate information, guidance and support to the woman and key people to enable them to manage and participate effectively in all agreed aspects of care
9. regularly check that the role and relationship of key people involved remains as agreed in the care plan
10. provide effective support for the woman and key people throughout, promoting their wishes and beliefs, addressing their concerns and encouraging them to promote their own health and well-being
11. produce records and reports that are clear, comprehensive, and accurate, and maintain the security and confidentiality of information

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**Knowledge and understanding**

You need to know and understand:

1. legal, organisational and policy requirements relevant to your role and the activities being carried out
2. the nature, extent and boundaries of your work role and its relationship to others in the organisation
3. the roles of other health and social care practitioners and how they relate between and across agencies
4. the legal requirements and good practice guidelines on consent, and consent for children, young people and vulnerable adults
5. how to recognise and respond to the signs of injury, abuse or neglect and your responsibility in relation to raising concerns with the appropriate person or agency
6. local systems, procedures and protocols for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults
7. the principle of information governance and the implications for your practice
8. how to work in partnership with women to enable them to make informed choices in the context of their own lives
9. how to recognise when women are not able to exercise their rights to make informed choices and the actions to take in response to this
10. why it is important to check and confirm with the woman who and to what extent she wishes to involve others as key people in her care
11. how to communicate effectively with individuals to meet the needs of a socio-economic, culturally diverse population
12. the importance of relating to each woman as an individual and the focus of care
13. how to respect the diversity and values of individuals
14. the importance of involving individuals in discussions, and how to do so
15. the importance of encouraging individuals to ask questions, and how to do so
16. the best available evidence based practice and its role in improving services
17. the principles of clinical risk management and how to apply these to your work
18. the physiological, psychological and emotional changes that occur in women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period
19. the health conditions that may affect women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period in your area of practice
20. the interdependent relationship of the health and well-being of the mother and her baby/ies and how this impacts on implementation of the care plan

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21. the strategies and interventions to promote or maintain optimal health and well-being of women and their babies in your area of work
22. the medication and interventions which are used to manage health conditions in your area of work and the effects of these on the overall health and well-being of the woman and her baby/ies
23. the importance of early identification and management of any problems arising during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period
24. pre-existing conditions that impact on the health and well-being of women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period, and any additional care required to address these
25. the benefits of engaging key people in the care of the woman and their baby/ies
26. the positive and negative impact of social relationships and environment on the health and well-being of women and their babies
27. how the needs of women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period may affect others
28. the factors that increase the risk of significant harm to women and babies in your area of work
29. the actions to take in response to concerns about the health and well-being of women and babies
30. how to implement the woman's agreed care plan
31. the range of services provided by the local GP, maternity services other healthcare practitioners and social services, and how to access these
32. other support services available locally, and how to access them
33. the costs, availability and locations of services
34. the barriers to access to services and the actions you can take in response to these
35. how to keep records in accordance with organisational policies and procedures

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**External Links**

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB5 Provision of care to meet health and wellbeing needs

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