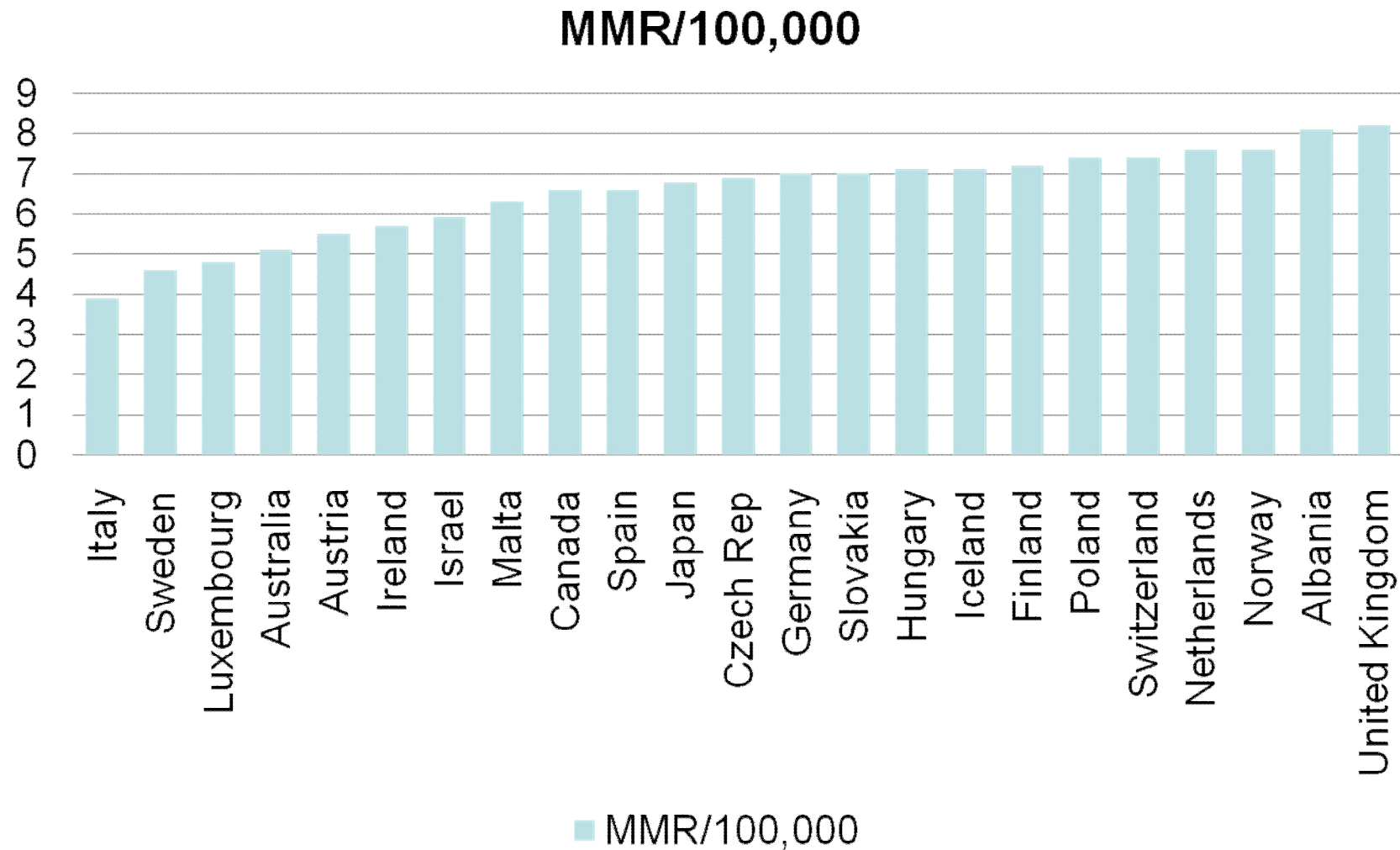




Yana Richens
Consultant Midwife for Public Health
Supervisor of Midwives
UCLH NHS Foundation Trust

The changing face of childbirth – are the needs of the diverse population being met?



Which groups of women does this occur in the UK



Vulnerable and socially excluded women

Teenagers

Non-English speaking women

Black and Ethnic Minority women

Women whom misuse drugs and alcohol

Women with mental health problems

Women whom are obese

Women who are victims of domestic violence

Single parents

Left behind

360 children



160 newborn babies



Three common themes



- **Access to care**
- **Information**
- **Communication**

How you can improve outcomes by improving access to services and care



Barriers may include:

- unfamiliarity with antenatal care services
- difficulty communicating with healthcare staff
- attitudes of healthcare staff
- practical problems attending antenatal appointments
- involvement of multiple agencies.

How you can improve outcomes by providing Information

Give all women a telephone number to contact a healthcare professional outside of normal working hours, at their booking appointment

Provide women with a private one-to-one consultation on at least one occasion to facilitate discussion of sensitive issues

Use a variety of methods (e.g. text messages) to remind women who misuse substances of upcoming and missed antenatal appointments

For women who have difficulty speaking or reading English, provide them with an interpreter (not a member of their family, legal guardian or partner) who can communicate with them in their preferred language

How you can improve outcomes by improving communication



- **Co-ordinate care and communicate sensitively.**
- **Consider initiating a multi-agency needs assessment.**
- **Discuss the woman's fears in a non-judgmental manner, respecting her right to confidentiality.**
- **Explain why and when information may need to be shared with other agencies.**

You are the key to the future

