



RCM communities manager

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[communities.rcm.org.uk](https://communities.rcm.org.uk)



**The Royal College of Midwives**  
*The only professional organisation and trade union led by midwives for midwives*



Campaign for Normal Birth

[Communities Home](#) | [Consultations](#) | [Midwives Blog](#) | [Groups](#) | [Members](#)

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## Welcome to the communities



Hello, and welcome to the RCM communities...

Emma

Why not collaborate with colleagues, share resources and air your views? Join a group now and get involved.

### Groups: Collaborate with your colleagues

Join groups to share resources, ask discussions and collaborate with your peers.



**Midwives**  
Members: 23

#### Latest conversations



**Uniforms: midwives versus nurses**  
Mon, 08/11/2010 - 13:18



**Unit closures**  
Fri, 05/11/2010 - 13:07



**Zoning anyone?**  
Fri, 05/11/2010 - 13:05

[Join in](#)

### Other RCM groups



**Consultant Midwives**  
Members: 8



**Professors of Midwifery**  
Members: 7



**Student Midwives**  
Members: 11



**Maternity Support Workers**  
Members: 10

[Groups](#)

### Latest from the blog

#### RCM dismay

Wed, 10/11/2010 - 17:08

In the recent health White Paper *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS* the government announced that commissioning of most NHS services would be led by GPs, though this would not include maternity services. This will be carried out by maternity networks involving experts in this area such as midwives and...

[Read more](#)

12 views | 0 comments

[All blog posts](#)

### Consultations: Influence your profession

Help us ensure that you have your say. Engage with us in our consultations.

#### Latest consultations

#### Closing consultations

#### Liberating the NHS: Greater choice and control

Status: **New**

Closing in: 5 weeks 4 days

This is an opportunity to influence the way in which the current government takes forward present policy on key components of choice in the context of maternity services i.e. type and loc ...

28 views | 1 comment

[Get Involved](#)

#### Health Start

Status: **New**

Closing in: 4 weeks 6 days

18 views | 1 comment

[Get Involved](#)

#### An Information Revolution

Status: **New**

Closing in: 5 weeks 4 days

This paper could result in a number of changes to how you provide information and support to women and their families to enable ...

5 views | 0 comments

[Get Involved](#)

[All consultations](#)

### Login to the community

Username \*

Password \*

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### Have your say

Reports claim maternity services will now be undertaken by local GP consortia. Are you worried about this?

Yes

0%

No

0%

It's too early to tell

0%

Total votes: 0

[Login or register to post comments](#)  
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## Groups: Collaborate with colleagues

Groups let you collect, participate and collaborate with other like-interest members. Request to join a group and start collaborating!



### Midwives

Members: 23

Whether you're newly qualified, been practising for years or even retired, this is the group for you.

[Join the Midwives group](#)



### Student Midwives

Members: 11

This group is for any RCM student midwife member, whether you're a diploma or degree student, direct entry or not.

[Join the Student Midwives group](#)



### Consultant Midwives

Members: 8

Are you a consultant midwife with strategic, clinical, research and educational training remits? This group is for all consultant midwives.

[Request membership](#)



### Professors of Midwifery

Members: 7

As leaders in midwifery education and research, this group is solely for the country's professors of midwifery.

[Request membership](#)



### Maternity Support Workers

Members: 10

This group is for all those who work closely with their midwife colleagues providing maternity support caring for mothers and babies.

[Join the Maternity Support Workers group](#)

## Login to the community

Username \*

Password \*

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- [Create new account](#)
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## Suggest a group

Suggest a group to RCM

[Suggest a group](#)



Campaign for Normal Birth

Communities Home Consultations Midwives Blog Groups Members

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## Student Midwives

This group is for any RCM student midwife member, whether you're a diploma or degree student, direct entry or not.

Overview Discussions Members Resources

< Back to Direct-entry midwives

### Do women care?

26 Oct 2010



Emma

Do you think women can tell or care if their midwife has or hasn't trained as a nurse prior to their midwifery education?

18 views | 3 replies

3 comments



### Comments



natzmo  
lko

17:55 pm | 1st November 2010

I dont think that women can, in general, tell if a midwife has been trained direct entry or as a nurse first. I think both have their merits. as a direct entry student myself, there have been times where i have felt that i would have benefitted from general nursing training- particularly where certain complex medical conditions have been involved. however, i do think that if it was mandatory to complete 3 years nursing and 18 months midwifery , some prospective students may be put off.

[reply](#) | [report](#)



Alexa

13:27 pm | 3rd November 2010

I personally think it would be more the characteristics and 'quality' of the midwife that women notice - is the midwife knowledgeable and is she confident in what she is doing? The midwifery training is therefore critical!

[reply](#) | [report](#)



mona

17:07 pm | 8th November 2010

I am not sure if every woman is even aware that some of us were previously nurses. I think the main thing for women is that her midwife is confident and has the knowledge she needs to give her the care the woman needs.

[reply](#) | [report](#)

### Join the discussion

**B** *I*

Path:

[Post Reply](#)



Rhea  
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Profile: 100% complete

### Start a topic

Start your own topic in this discussion forum

[Start a topic](#)

### Filter topics by keyword

active management of third stage  
adequate analgesia agency  
staff Agenda for change  
assignments birth rate BMI  
bullying career catheterisation  
clinic **clinical practice**  
collaboration colleagues  
competition complex cases  
**education** Epidurals Essays  
fathers feedback fetal heart  
Funding guidance healthcare  
professionals impact on  
client care and experience  
intermittent auscultation Latent  
phase of labour managers  
**mentor** mentorship  
mobility normal normalise birth  
nurse nursing obstetricians  
On-call pay structure  
pensions physiological third  
stage policy positioning  
Postnatal **postnatal care**  
qualified midwives Record-  
keeping regulation  
**Research** retirement risk  
management role;  
responsibilities; duties  
**students** SUI  
supervised practice  
supervisor of midwives  
support Teamwork training;  
courses under-staffed  
uniforms; nurses unit VBAC  
**waterbirth** weigh zoning;  
community midwives; TUPE

Leave the Student Midwives  
group



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## Midwives Blog



cathyw

### RCM dismay

10th November 2010



Category:  
Politics

In the recent health White Paper *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS* the government announced that commissioning of most NHS services would be led by GPs, though this would not include maternity services. This will be carried out by maternity networks involving experts in this area such as midwives and obstetricians. The RCM welcomed and supported this model of commissioning.

0 comments | 1 attachment | 12 views | [Read more](#) | [Comment](#)



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Politics



Emma

### A smile will do

5th November 2010



Life is busy, difficult, fraught... Things don't always go the way you would hope... Others say and do things you don't like or agree with... Sometimes people don't react the way you want... They forget, they are tired, they are struggling with life – something personal, something at work... We can all appreciate every one of these sentiments in some form or another, at one time or another, but what, I guess you're wondering, am I getting at?

21 views | [Read more](#) | 1 new comment | 1 comment



Emma

### Is that formula milk?

26th October 2010



What's your first thought when you see this picture of David Cameron? Immediate outrage? He's formula feeding at six weeks... That's not following the Department of Health's advice of breastfeeding for the first six months. But wait, what if it's expressed breastmilk? The collective sigh of relief is almost palpable.

Category:  
Politics

106 views | [Read more](#) | 3 new comments | 7 comments



# Some of the questions posted in the student group...

Q: Do you think women can tell or care if their midwife has or hasn't trained as a nurse prior to their midwifery education?

Q: Are students being over-utilised in under-staffed hospital environments? Is learning/support being compromised as students fill gaps in the workplace instead of qualified midwives?



Q: What is the policy at your trust on women with epidurals? Can they change position? Can they mobilise? Are they automatically catheterised?

Q: Would you feel confident and competent at a waterbirth or a physiological third stage? Do you think you lack experience in 'normality'?

Q: With the increased student intake, do you feel there are enough mentors to support you in clinical practice?

Q: Does an ability to write a good essay make a good midwife?



## My question to you:

What would you like to post? Why not log on, create a profile and get involved, and help make the student group a success.

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