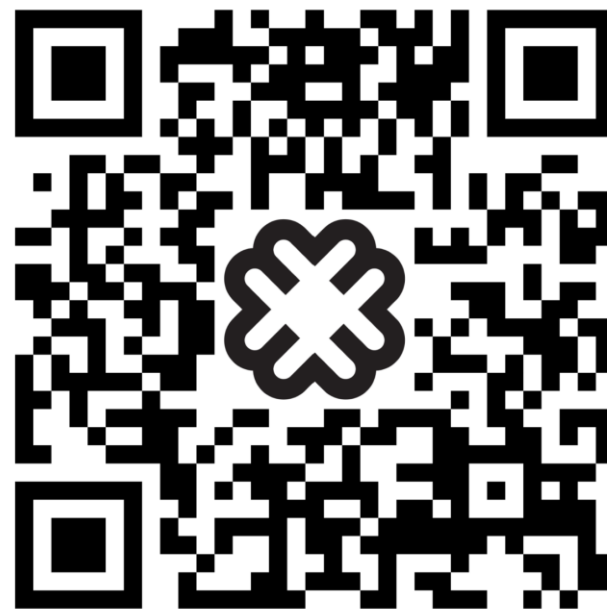


RCM Research Team virtual suggestion box

How can our team support you?

Submit your suggestions here!



RCM Research Support Buddy Scheme

Having someone to support you in the early stages of the research, audit or quality improvement process can be helpful. We have volunteer midwife Buddies who are happy to support RCM members. See more at: <https://rcm.org.uk/research/#research-buddy>

Follow the QR code if you would like to access informal support from a Buddy:



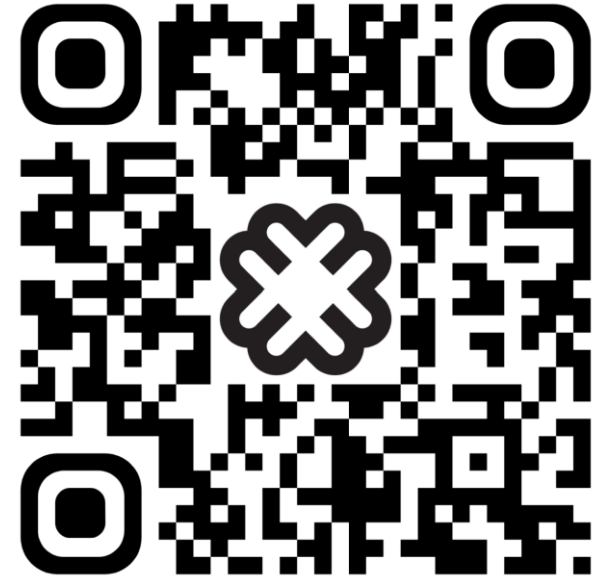
If you would like to become a Buddy, thank you! Please contact our team to discuss this: research@rcm.org.uk

Final chance to complete this survey! Career progression of UK midwifery researchers

If you are a UK based midwife and have:

1. Completed a MRes or PCAF OR
2. Registered on a PhD programme OR
3. Have completed a PhD

Please complete before **midnight 28 June!**



Student Midwives Conference

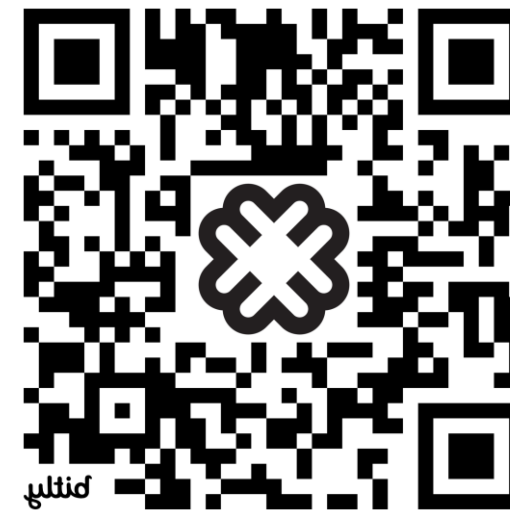
**‘The student midwife journey: From learning to leading:
Inspiring the midwives of tomorrow’**



- Tuesday 3 - Wednesday 4 November 2026
- Old Trafford Cricket Ground, Manchester



Book now



Royal College of Midwives All member conference 2027



- 5-6 May 2027
- The ICC, Birmingham



Save the date! Bookings open in September 2026

The RCM & MIDIRS Doctoral Thesis Collection



Royal College
of Midwives

MIDIRS now host the RCM Doctoral Thesis Collection –
<https://rcm.org.uk/midirs/midirs-resources-and-guidelines/>



International collection

If you are a midwife and
have completed a PhD -
Follow this QR code to
include your Doctoral Thesis



The RCM Small Research Awards 2027

Our Small Research Awards are an exciting initiative for RCM members.

Find out more here: <https://rcm.org.uk/research/#sra-tab>

Follow the QR code to hear when the 2027 Awards open!



The Top 10 Priorities

1. What is required to create and implement culturally safe maternity care in the UK for women and birthing parents, and their babies, and staff from the global ethnic majority? What role does decolonisation of the midwifery curriculum and ongoing learning in clinical settings play in improving cultural competence and safety?
2. What are the appropriate reasons for Induction of labour? What are the short and long term maternal and baby outcomes associated with it? How should this be communicated to women and birthing parents and their informed consent gained?
3. What are the important components of personalised maternity care to ensure informed choice and decision making and how should this care be provided?
4. How does the culture within the maternity services, including racism, incivility and other negative behaviours amongst staff impact on midwives, maternity support workers and maternity care assistants and what can be done to address this?
5. What factors mean that birth is becoming increasingly medicalised, and what are the long and short term outcomes resulting from interventions? How does medicalisation impact on the choices that women and birthing parents can make and the clinical care that they receive?

The Top 10 Priorities

6. How can the causes and consequences of pre-existing psychological trauma during the perinatal period be better understood and prevented or the impact reduced? What role does trauma-informed care play in addressing it?
7. How can postnatal care be prioritised and improved so that mothers and birthing parents and their babies receive high quality care that meets their individual needs?
8. How can the maternity services improve bereavement care? How should the best available information be used by maternity services to improve the bereavement care experience for parents who suffer a loss in their current or previous pregnancies? What support and care provision should be available for families following a maternal death?
9. How can midwifery continue to be an attractive career for potential applicants? How can midwifery students and qualified midwives be helped to stay in the profession in a way that provides a positive work environment and supports the provision of safe and compassionate care?
10. What are the specific needs of neurodiverse individuals (including those undiagnosed) throughout their maternity care, and what knowledge, understanding and communication skills should maternity care professionals possess to provide safe and compassionate care?