



EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS
IRELAND



Cochrane
Ireland

Evidence Synthesis Ireland Fellowship Scheme 2020

Review Identification Form

In order to help us advertise your review and select an appropriate fellow, please complete the following:

Review Centre/Group Mentor

Review Centre: Trinity College Dublin

Mentors: Prof Valerie Smith

Review title

Project title:

Maternity care during COVID 19 - A qualitative evidence synthesis of i) women's and ii) midwives views and experiences

Review type

Qualitative evidence synthesis

Review details— *please identify the topic of the review and a very brief background, objectives and PICO (or other question format details) of the review. Please also include current status of review (e.g. protocol on PROSPERO, searches started etc.)*

Background: Considerable changes in maternity care provision have been implemented since the onset of COVID-19. These include policies of restrictive visiting (e.g. one designated parent for babies in NICU; no visiting in antenatal, postnatal and gynaecology wards), reconfiguration of physical space to accommodate suspected or confirmed COVID-19 positive women, suspension of key services such as parent education, antenatal classes and birth reflection clinics, increased antenatal and postnatal telephone consultations, increased community midwifery services and displacement of some outreach antenatal clinics back to the hospital. All of these changes have the potential to impact positively or negatively on women's experiences of maternity services, and on the experiences of midwives as lead maternity professionals in providing care to women and their families. A synthesis of evidence is required to understand and gain insight into maternity service

experiences during a COVID-19 so as to optimise and enhance care provision and to identify future care needs during a global pandemic.

Aim: To synthesise the available evidence on women's and midwives views and experiences of maternity care during COVID-19.

Studies will be included in the review where they report on;

- Participants/Population: Pregnant or postpartum women of any parity or risk status, antenatal and up to 6 weeks postpartum, and midwives caring for pregnant/postpartum women
- Exposure: Maternity care (recipient or provider) during COVID-19
- Outcomes: Inductive themes representative of women's and midwives views and experiences of maternity care during COVID-19
- Study types: All identified published and unpublished studies providing qualitative data on women's and midwives views/experiences of maternity care during COVID-19. This will include qualitative descriptive and exploratory studies, phenomenology, grounded theory, ethnography, and action research. Studies of mixed methods design, where qualitative data can be extracted separately, will be included. Survey designs with open-ended questions that provide qualitative data, will also be considered for inclusion.

Review current status – please indicate current status of review (e.g. protocol on PROSPERO, searches started etc.)

Protocol drafted (not yet registered/published)

Any specific/desirable requirements for fellow (e.g. clinical expertise, methodological expertise)

Interest in maternity care

Familiarity/experience with qualitative data analysis (*desirable*)

Estimated start and completion dates

November 2020 to November 2021