



**EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS**  
IRELAND



**Cochrane**  
Ireland

## **Evidence Synthesis Ireland Fellowship Scheme**

### **Review Identification Form**

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

#### **Review Group Mentor**

Prof Valerie Smith  
University College Dublin

#### **Review title**

Women and healthcare providers' views and experiences of maternity care bundles: A qualitative evidence synthesis

#### **Review type and methods**

Type of review: Qualitative Synthesis

Methods: The Cochrane Qualitative and Implementation Methods Group guidance will be used to guide the review, overall. The chosen synthesis method will be Thomas and Harden's (2008) thematic synthesis. The Fellow is expected to learn:

- Registering the review protocol with PROSPERO
- Developing and implementing a search strategy
- Screening studies using Covidence
- Quality Assessment of included studies
- Standardised and systematic extraction of data from studies
- Data synthesis
- Write-up and report; submission to a Journal for publication

#### **Review information**

End-users: maternity and allied health care providers, policy and practice guideline developers, women and families as clients of maternity care.

PPI representation on the review team will be sought at protocol development

#### **Review details**

**Background:** Care bundles were introduced by the Institute for Health Improvement (IHI) in 2001 and are defined as: *A small set of evidence-based interventions for a defined patient segment/population and care setting that, when implemented together, will result in significantly better outcomes than when implemented individually* (Resar et al., 2021). Care bundles for use in maternity care have been developed for many maternity conditions, e.g., surgical site infection, obstetric haemorrhage, perineal trauma, and the safe reduction of caesarean section. A scoping review, conducted in fulfilment of a previous ESI Fellowship, identified 147 development, implementation or evaluation studies on care bundles for use in maternity care (Ryan et al., 2024). Among and outside of these 147 records, several qualitative studies reporting on clinicians and women’s views or experiences of care bundles in maternity care were identified. Given these, and the ongoing development of care bundles for use in maternity care, a synthesis of qualitative findings is timely.

**Aim:** To explore women and healthcare providers views and experiences of care bundles for use in pregnancy, labour/birth, and postpartum care.

**Eligibility (SPIDER):** Studies will be eligible if they report on women or healthcare providers [S] views and experiences of care bundles in maternity care (PI). The included studies will have qualitative data [D]. The data will be synthesized into representative themes [E]. Published and unpublished research will be included [R].

**Quality Assessment and Data Synthesis:** The newly developed CAMELOT tool will be used for quality assessment (with user feedback provider as requested by the developers; Munthe-Kaas et al., 2024). The Thomas and Harden (2008) thematic synthesis method will be used for data synthesis.

**GRADE:** GRADE-CerQual (Lewin et al., 2018) will be used to assess the confidence of the findings of the qualitative evidence synthesis.

#### References

1. Lewin S, Booth A, Glenton C, et al. Applying GRADE-CERQual to qualitative evidence synthesis findings: introduction to the series. *Implementation Sci*, 2018; 13 (Suppl 1) <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-017-0688-3>
2. Munthe-Kaas HM, Booth A, Sommer I, et al. Developing CAMELOT for assessing methodological limitations of qualitative research for inclusion in qualitative evidence syntheses. *Cochrane Evidence Synthesis Methods*, 2024; 2(6): e12058 <https://doi.org/10.1002/cesm.12058>
3. Resar R, Griffin FA, Haraden C, Nolan TW. Using Care Bundles to Improve Health Care Quality. IHI Innovation Series white paper. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Institute for Healthcare Improvement 2012; Available on [www.IHI.org](http://www.IHI.org)
4. Ryan T, McGrinder T, Smith V. Care bundles for women during pregnancy, labour/birth, and postpartum: a scoping review [version 1; peer review: 1 approved]. *HRB Open Res*, 2024; 7:40 <https://doi.org/10.12688/hrbopenres.13905.1>
5. Thomas J, Harden A. Methods for the thematic synthesis of qualitative research in systematic reviews. *BMC Med Res Methodology*, 2008; 8(45) <https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2288-8-45>

**Review current status**

Not started

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

Knowledge of maternity care and experience in qualitative research desirable although not essential

**Estimated start and completion dates**

March 2025 – December 2025