

Name of Forum	Midwifery	Date of Report	1 st September 2023
Professional Lead	Carmel Bagness	Forum Chair	Yvonne Bronsky

Please provide a summary of how the forum has represented the RCN over the past 6 months and the key points for FGG to note:

- 1. Perinatal mental health alliance Northern Ireland RCN representative.** RCN are founding members of MMHA; Current and planned lobbying for Mothers and baby unit (MBU) in NI; What interim measures were used in the other 3 regions whilst an absence of an MBU that could be proposed in NI; and what measures can be put in place for those women who don't meet criteria for specialist perinatal MH support teams.
- 2. NHSE Maternity and Neonatal Conference** England initiatives to reduce maternal and perinatal mortality, improve safety and maternal experiences.
- 3. Behavioural Insights Workshop – NHSE (HEE)** Insight into professional behaviours and cultures, and how these may affect maternity care. Midwifery forum workplan around caring for carers - how midwives relate to each other and the wider team.
- 4. International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) Council meeting and Triennial Congress.** Two midwifery forum committee members were supported via Forum Governance Group to represent RCN on the ICM Council representing Midwives at the RCN UK; and present posters submitted to the Scientific Programme of the ICM Congress, in Bali, in June 2023.

What has been the impact or difference made as a result of the member representation.

- 1. Perinatal mental health alliance Northern Ireland RCN representative.** This provides a vital service for RCN midwifery forum to be engaged with; Promoting the needs of women in pregnancy suffering from MH concerns, Networking and liaising with other organisations, Provide direction for forum strategy for current year.
- 2. NHSE Maternity and Neonatal Conference** Promote role of RCN in a midwifery / neonatal setting. We engaged with several attendees, some of whom were RCN members but not aware of the Midwifery Forum, and some were not aware that RCN supports midwives. As the NHSE commitment now includes neonatal, it is vital that RCN represents nursing and midwifery members.
- 3. Behavioural Insights Workshop – NHSE (HEE)** Useful understanding of individual behaviours and organisational culture and their impact on maternity care.
- 4. International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) Council meeting and Triennial Congress.** As association members, RCN has an active role to play in engaging in ICM business, this includes attendance and active engagement in its Europe regional meetings and Triennium council meetings. Two members attended council meeting and the scientific paper Congress. They both participated in the Council meeting and presented posters at the Congress, one of which highlighted the recent work of the RCN in Midwifery and Women's Health. A full report was also submitted to RCN International Committee.

Any other relevant information you would like to share with FGG?

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