



MUMS@RISC study

IMPROVING CARE FOR WOMEN
FACING REMOVAL AT BIRTH

KING'S
College
LONDON

Newsletter 1 - May 2023

What is the study about?

The MUMS@RISC study is short for Maternity Experiences and perinatal Outcomes of Mothers facing Removal of their Infant due to Social Care proceedings. The study is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) and will use both qualitative and quantitative research methods to understand the care needs of women whose baby is removed from their care after birth. The project is funded for 3 years, and through regular Newsletters we aim to keep you informed. At the end of the project, we will bring together women with lived experience, stakeholders, clinicians, academic collaborators and third sector organisations at a sharing event to discuss and reflect on study findings.

What has happened so far?

As a first step, we want to understand what is already known about this topic. To do so, we are reviewing the existing literature that has been published already on the healthcare experiences of women who face removal of their baby in the perinatal period and what it is like for healthcare professionals to deliver care to mothers in this context. Results of the systematic review are due to be completed by the end of the Summer.

Preparatory work for the quantitative work is also well underway. The eLIXIR database contains over 40,000 pregnancy records of women in South London and will enable us to investigate any differences in maternal, neonatal and mental health outcomes of women who have social care involvement, compared to those that don't.

What are the next steps?

Ethics application for the qualitative workstream is due to be submitted by June 2023, with the aim to start recruiting women with lived experience in October 2023. We want to hear from them what their experiences were like, how their needs were (not) met and how care can be improved.

The MUMS@RISC advisory panel


With the support of our partner organisations (Birth Companions, Pause, MPower, Reform) six women came forward to be part of the MUMS@RISC advisory panel.

During the first two meetings, they shared some of their own lived experience and discussed a group agreement. We also decided on a study logo and had a brainstorm on the values that have to underpin the research study. The ideas from the panel have been captured in the MUMS@RISC Charter for Research Engagement. It is our aim to uphold these principles and values throughout the entire research journey, from the way the study is designed, to every individual interaction with a potential research participant.

Are you interesting in collaborating on this study?

Get in touch:

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