

SUMMARY OF SUPERVISOR OF MIDWIVES AUDIT

JULY 2010

100% of midwives felt supported by their named SOM

Comments

- "I know I can contact her whenever"
- "Not as well supported as by my team leader"
- "Always able to discuss any concerns"
- "Always approachable"
- "She's very supportive and knowledgeable"

98% of midwives stated that they met with their SOM on a regular basis, at least annually.

Comments

- "Sometimes difficult due to workload"
- "Just when needed"
- "She's available whenever I need her"

100% of midwives stated that when they met with their named SOM they were able to discuss their views and contribute ideas.

Comments

- "Open discussion"

100% of midwives stated that their named SOM assisted in identifying educational and clinical/professional requirements.

Comments

- "Discussed each supervisory"
- "She's supportive and encouraging"

93% of midwives felt that their named SOM facilitated them in meeting their educational and clinical/professional requirements. This was left unanswered on one occasion.

Comments

- "Appears too busy"
- "It proves to be difficult to attend study days"
- "My team leader has"

- “No, but I am sure she would help if asked”
- “Not always able to assist due to financial/time constraints”
- “Not always”

100% of midwives were happy with their named SOM

Comments

- “Very”
- “Best of the bunch”
- “She’s fantastic”

100% of midwives were aware that they could change their named SOM at any time.

Comments

- “But why?”

100% of midwives stated that they were aware how to contact a SOM at all times.

63% of midwives sought guidance/advice from another SOM

Comments

- “Not in past year but previously”
- “Mine was away”

100% of those midwives stated that support was provided in those instances.

Comments

- “Very satisfactory, good team of midwives”
- “Yes, very good”
- “Yes, excellent”

78% of midwives stated that they informed the women of the role of the SOM.

- “When needed, leaflet given at booking” x 2
- “If felt necessary”
- “Discussion when giving leaflet at first point of contact”
- “Not had reason to”
- “Discussed at booking, leaflet”
- “Leaflet given, not good at this”
- “Have on rare occasion”

Midwives comments on the most important aspect of supervision are:

- “Protect the public and support midwives”
- “Support” x 20
- “Support women’s choice”
- “Advocate for women and support for midwives”
- “Support when having a difficult time at work”
- “Support and direction when required”
- “Support and encouragement to be able to air how you feel whilst being non-judgemental”
- “Supporting me to achieve my goals and someone to share concerns”
- “Being able to access support 24/7 if needed”
- “Support on a daily basis and help to develop”
- “Support and advice” x 6
- “Support and guidance in all clinical issues” x 3
- “Safeguarding the service for women and children”
- “Support to maintain competence and safety”
- “Having easy access for support when necessary. Able to discuss grey areas if uncertain”
- “Assistance with learning needs”
- “Expertise”
- “The ability to talk in confidence”
- “Support in staying in the job”
- “Knowing that my supervisor will be there for me to discuss any concerns I may have”

16% of midwives stated that the profile of supervision needed to be raised within the Maternity Unit.

Comments

- “For women”
- “Already good”
- Overall role clarification”
- “Not for staff but for women”
- “A meeting for all midwives with a group of SOM”

- “Possibly”
- “ I feel that supervision is strong and accessible”
- “The posters are small, perhaps a meet the supervisors day”

A total of 60 questionnaires were returned which demonstrated a 74% response rate.

The Supervisor of Midwives work plan (2010) incorporates any actions from the audit.