Appreciative Inquiry and positive discussions to improve intrapartum shared decision making in maternity.

Percival B, Hick E, Green L, Black R.

John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Define

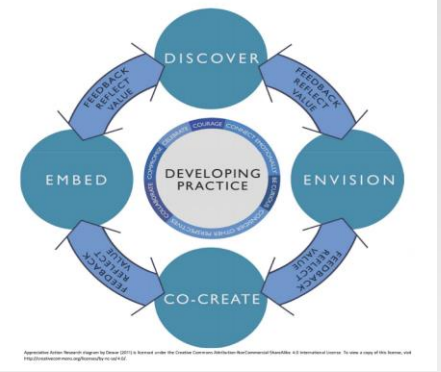
Shared decision making (SDM) is when health professionals and patients work together, putting people at the centre of decisions about their care. Recent publications[1,2] highlight that SDM is central to modern obstetric practice. The aim of this project was to improve intrapartum SDM for women at the John Radcliffe Hospital, with a particular focus on the way we conduct our labour ward rounds.

Discover

We used appreciative inquiry (AI) methodology to investigate patient and staff beliefs about SDM. Team focus, co-creation and patient involvement were key aspects of this project.

We obtained 62 responses over four weeks using a five-point discussion tool. We qualitatively analysed responses using word clouds and at multiprofessional meetings.

Project Structure



AI discussion tool

- Good shared decision making is ...
- I love it when ...
- It's really helpful when ...
- Thank you for ...
- To improve shared decision making we could ...

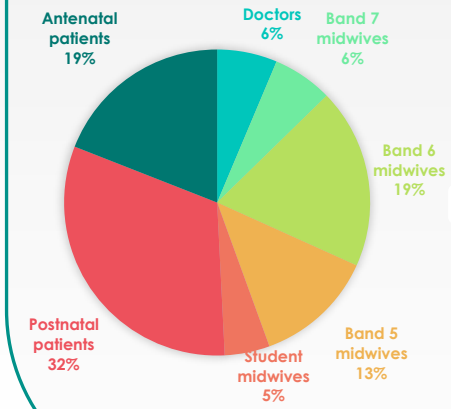
Dream

SDM forms part of daily multiprofessional work as done on Labour Ward.

Parents are routinely included in decisions about their care.

Results

Responses from healthcare professionals and women



Good shared decision making is…

Thank you for…

Themes

Good shared decision making is	• when an informed health professional involves women in decisions with regular multi professional input and a focus on listening
I love it when	• there is support, kindness and respect within a team and good communication
It's really helpful when	• there is continuity of care
Thank you for	• excellent teamwork • being given options, time and being supported in decisions
To improve shared decision making we could	• Include all those involved in decisions and reduce remote decision-making, to enhance communication and consistency when counselling women and support them in their decisions.

Design

SDM is central to good intrapartum care. A Ward Round Charter has been co-created and a change in practice embedded. Particular emphasis is placed on discussions between the multiprofessional team and parents, both during ward rounds and at any decision points a woman faces during labour.

Destiny

The project findings have been shared at the Trust QI Hub.

References

1. Ockenden Report. Emerging Findings and Recommendations from the Independent review of Maternity Services at the Shrewsbury and Telford NHS trust. December 2020.

2. NICE shared decision making. https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/our-programmes/nice-guidance/nice-guidelines/shared-decision-making. Accessed June 2021.

3. Appreciative action research diagram, Dewar 2011. http://myhomelife.uws.ac.uk/scotland/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Appreciative-Action-Research-Cycle.pdf