

# Tackling Diabetes in Pregnancy through a Community of Practice: A London Experience

Authors: Sophie Harris, Ellie Wharton, Ashley Bowcock, Dominic Norton, Ellen Pirie, Laura Semple, Catherine Dale, Cleo Butterworth and Anna Brackenridge; on behalf of the **Community of Practice**

Bringing together colleagues from across diabetes and maternity services, the Community of Practice is a self-governing collaborative network designed to improve care and services for women and babies affected by diabetes in pregnancy.



**June 2018:** At the suggestion of various clinical teams, the Health Innovation Network helped convene the London Diabetes in Pregnancy Community of Practice



**21 trusts:** And 14 other organisations across London represented including commissioners, academics and women and families with lived experience



**240 members:** Across a range professional groups and organisations, sharing experiences and expertise



**Core Leaders:** 25 passionate and accomplished clinicians designing and leading sessions and improvement work



## Our work to date

### Diabetes Specialist Midwives Group

Before its inception, there was nowhere for these professionals to come together. The group are currently sharing experiences, job descriptions and working practices

### Modernisation and technology

In October 2018, we held a session introducing five leading companies providing digital solutions in diabetes in pregnancy. We are now supporting a number of trusts to adopt technological innovations

### Presentation post 34-weeks

We have undertaken a survey across our membership to understand more about care and services for women who present late on in pregnancy. Watch this space for further information

### Preconception & Care after GDM

We have established a working group to collate resources and build connections with primary care

### Online platform

To help facilitate the sharing of resources and conversations outside of meetings

**Future work:** continuous glucose monitoring for type 1, standardisation of screening, risk stratification and co-morbidities

## Communities of Practice

### Individuals connected by a shared domain

Self-determining, self-governing and non-hierarchical group, connected by their interest in improving care

### Across traditional boundaries

Organisationally and professionally

### Taking on 'wicked' problems

Difficult to define, multicausal, socially complex, with no obvious solution

### Turning conversation into collaboration

Creating headspace for individuals to pull and work together. Proven to lead to meaningful system change

