

Implementation of British Association of Perinatal Medicine (BAPM) Perinatal Optimisation Passports

“**Successful implementation of BAPM passports is enhancing teamwork, standardising care, and improving antenatal counselling experiences.**”

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King's College Hospital (KCH) has two maternity and neonatal units within South East London. The Denmark Hill (DH) site is a Level 3 surgical neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) with a high-risk fetal medicine unit. In line with our commitment with Family Integrated Care (FICare), we strongly believe that BAPM passports encourage parents to become partners in care and empowers them with essential information about their premature babies' care.

Aims

To successfully implement the BAPM passports within 1 year by:

- Raising awareness of the BAPM passports within the maternity and neonatal teams.
- Making the completion of the passports routine practice in the unit.

Background

There are approximately 4000 deliveries per year in King's College Hospital - Denmark Hill. In 2024, 121 babies were born below 34 weeks of gestation.

This quality improvement project (QIP) started in July 2024 with the aim to successfully implement the use of BAPM clinical and baby passports at KCH Denmark Hill. Before this project started, BAPM passports were not routinely used in our unit.

The project was led and developed by members of our cross-site multidisciplinary Preterm Optimisation working group and implemented by the selected champions.

Method

Champions of the Preterm Optimisation working group implemented this project by:

- Leading sessions to raise awareness.
- Sending frequent reminders to the team (face to face, via email and text, and in the newsletter).
- Collecting and analysing data.

Since the implementation of the BAPM passports, we have been monitoring the use and completion of both baby and clinical passports. Data was collected monthly from EPIC since the start of the QIP (July 2024 to January 2025).

Baby passports:

- Audited the use of the BAPM passport during antenatal counselling.
- Ensuring full completion of the BAPM passport once admitted to the neonatal unit (by first week of life).
- Uploading BAPM passports onto our electronic system (EPIC).

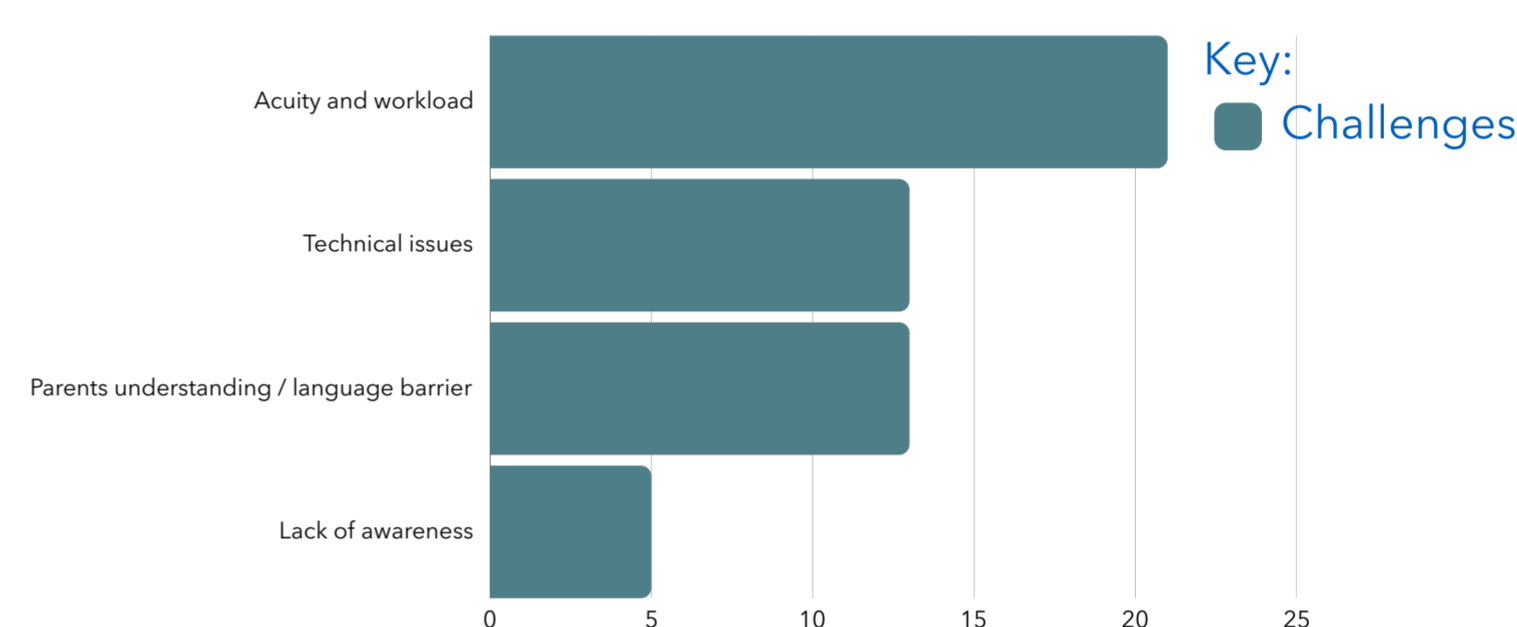
Clinical passports:

- Created a template for documentation on the electronic clinical notes and audited its completion.

In February 2025, a survey was sent to all parents who had received the baby passport and whose babies were still admitted to the unit. Another survey was sent to the wide neonatal team to understand their views with regards the implementation of the BAPM passports.

Healthcare professionals' survey

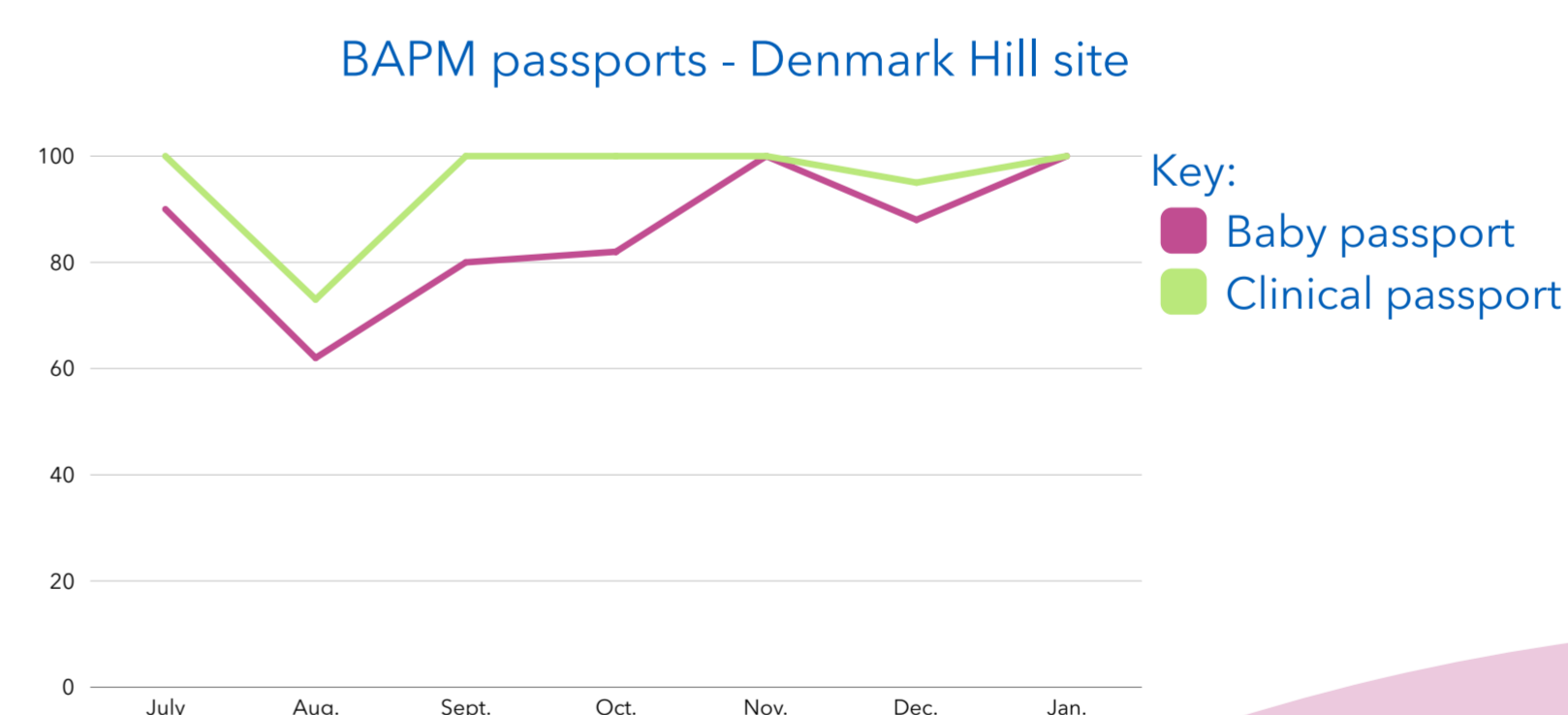
Barriers or challenges when completing the BAPM passports



93.4%

of the healthcare professionals surveyed found it useful to incorporate the baby passport into antenatal counselling.

Percentage of completion of baby and clinical passports at the Denmark Hill site – July 2024-January 2025



Results

We have seen a gradual improvement in the use of both BAPM passports. Although initially their use and completion were mainly linked to the presence and support of the champions, over the last few months it has become routine practice within the team.

We have noticed that baby passports are more difficult to get completed compared to the clinical passports. We believe this is because of the challenge in finding the right moment to discuss the baby passport with the parents, and also depending on the acuity and workload of the unit.

85.7%



of the mothers found the BAPM baby passport "extremely" or "very" helpful in understanding the baby's care and the interventions involved.

Conclusions

We have successfully implemented the BAPM passports at the Denmark Hill neonatal unit, and we are now working on its implementation at the Princess Royal University Hospital.

The main challenge during the implementation was the engagement of the whole team. The main difficulty for completing and uploading the passports is the workload and acuity in the unit.

Baby passports are being used more frequently for antenatal counselling and completed for most patients after admission to the unit. We will continue encouraging its use and highlighting the importance of giving the baby passports before the baby is born. The passport will work as a guide to standardise the general information given to parents during antenatal counselling.