



Ceri Staples

BSc (Hons) Midwifery, Professional Development in Advancing Practice

Liability Breach of Duty Reports, Midwifery



Profile:

I am a highly experienced and clinically active senior midwife with over 20 years in NHS maternity services, including almost a decade in senior leadership roles. Currently working as a Delivery Suite Coordinator & the fetal monitoring lead within my Trust, I provide expert oversight in high-risk, high-pressure clinical environments, ensuring safe, evidence-based, and woman-centred care.

My clinical background spans the full spectrum of maternity care, with specialist expertise in intrapartum management & care, fetal monitoring, obstetric emergencies, and midwifery leadership. I have been involved in two independent National midwifery reviews as well as being an MBRRACE assessor, reviewing maternal deaths within the UK. These governance and risk-focused roles underpin a deep understanding of safe clinical practice, regulatory standards, and multidisciplinary collaboration.

I hold a Postgraduate Certificate in Advancing Midwifery Practice and qualifications in High Dependency Care, Examination of the Newborn, Mentorship, and the former Supervisor of Midwives programme. My background also includes experience providing professional midwifery support and advice to both staff and service users.

Areas of Expert Opinion:

- Intrapartum midwifery care
- Fetal monitoring and interpretation (CTG)
- Risk assessment and escalation procedures
- Management of obstetric emergencies
- High dependency care in maternity settings
- Multidisciplinary communication and teamworking
- Midwifery leadership, supervision, and staffing
- Adherence to national maternity guidelines and local protocols
- Care planning and informed consent
- Postnatal and neonatal observations and care

Qualifications and Memberships:

- BSc (Hons) Midwifery, University of Paisley 2004
- Post Graduate Certificate: Professional Development in Advancing Practice, University of Plymouth 2017



Maggie Sargent & Associates

- NLS Instructor 2017
- PROMPT instructor
- Professional Midwifery Advocate & previously a Supervisor of Midwives

Review Team Member

Nov 2022 to present

Review at Nottingham University Hospitals Trust

Contributing to a nationally significant review into maternity failings, I collaborate with a multi-disciplinary team to investigate cases, assess service quality, and support recommendations that drive improvement and accountability across maternity care systems.

Review Team Member

Sept 2020 to Mar 2022

Ockenden Report

Worked alongside clinicians and specialists to review maternity services at Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Trust. Evaluated care episodes and Trust investigations related to maternity & neonatal services, providing insights that informed national policy reform and safety improvements.

MBRRACE UK midwife Assessor

2019 to present

MBRRACE-UK

I undertake the review of the anonymised medical records of all women who die during or up to one year after pregnancy and selected women with severe morbidities to identify messages to improve future care. The care of women is reviewed in relation to existing relevant national guidance and areas of care are identify where improved practice in the future might prevent women's deaths or other severe outcomes.

Professional Midwifery Advocate

2019 to present

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

A leadership & advocacy role designed to deploy the A-EQUIP (Advocating and educating for quality improvement) model following the end of statutory supervision.

Fetal monitoring Lead – Band 7

2017 to present

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

As Fetal Monitoring Lead & part of fetal monitoring team, I provided expert oversight of fetal monitoring procedures & guidelines, ensuring safe and effective care during pregnancy and childbirth. I lead staff training with my 2 other colleagues to improve outcomes & staff knowledge, contributed to the development of clinical policies, and carry out audits to maintain high standards of documentation and intervention. My role involves offering guidance on complex cases and promoting best practices that supported positive maternal and neonatal outcomes. This position combines advanced clinical expertise with leadership with a strong commitment to patient safety.

Delivery Suite Coordinator – Band 7

2015 to present

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

Providing strong clinical leadership, education and support to a team of midwives on a shift by shift basis. Assessing, prioritising and coordinating the workload by liaising with the multi-disciplinary team and departments to ensure the smooth running of the unit. I am the midwife lead of the guideline committee, and I frequently manage incidents by completing full risk reviews as well as conducting root cause analysis, implementing any action plans generated from these.