



Colette McGilchrist

Registered Midwife, Newborn Life Support practitioner

Types of Reports Undertaken: Liability Breach of Duty Reports & Screening Reports

Client Age Categories: Neonatal



Specialisms:

- Midwifery

Profile:

I work as part of the Senior Leadership Team at a large tertiary referral maternity unit that is a well-respected Maternal Medicine Network Centre and provides the highest level care to the sickest and most pre-term infants. My midwifery experience covers working in Scotland, Rural Africa and England (including London).

I have significant midwifery experience in all maternity disciplines, including the highly respected role of Maternity Unit Coordinator and emergency bleep holder. I have a strong clinical skill set which enabled me to become an integral part of the clinical multidisciplinary team, including participation in, and leading, emergencies and clinical decision making, with a particularly strong focus on managing safety in a busy and high-risk labour ward.

I maintain my Continuous Professional Development (CPD) due to the rapidly changing environment of maternity and healthcare. This enables me to keep updated with current guidelines, policies, reports and research to lead and educate my team of midwives and support staff to deliver safe and respectful maternity care. I lead on clinical audits to evaluate our service and seek areas where we can improve.

I have experience of working with the Care Quality Commission when they came to inspect my clinical area and delivered on their recommendations. I participate in Health Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB) investigations and support staff who have had to give evidence of care. I complete 'Datix' investigations and participate in monthly Incident Review groups to discuss high-risk incidents and contribute to our learning as part of a multi-disciplinary team, ensuring learning is disseminated to the whole midwifery team.

I strive for kind, respectful, and safe maternity care and advocate that all women, birthing people, babies, and families have a safe, positive and memorable experience of their journey through our maternity service. Unfortunately, incidents and adverse outcomes can and do happen, and my passion lies in fostering a psychologically safe environment for staff and a 'no blame' culture, to ensure we learn from incidents and prevent them from happening again, both within our trust and further afield.



Maggie Sargent & Associates

I understand the litigation process and my duties under the Civil Procedure Rules pertaining to expert witnesses and Part 35. Fundamental to my work as an expert witness is to consistently act with fairness and integrity, utilising my advanced clinical skill set and building upon my philosophy of delivering a high standard of safe, equitable and effective maternity care for all.

Career History:

GUYS AND ST THOMAS' NHS FOUNDATION TRUST Sept 2023 – Present

St Thomas' Hospital, London

Lead Midwife for maternity inpatients.

Lead Midwife for maternity Inpatient Services at a large tertiary unit in central London, responsible for hospital Birth Centre (labour ward), Maternity HDU and theatres, antenatal and postnatal wards, and the Westminster private suite.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST Jan – Sept 2023

Transformation Midwife at Oxford University Hospitals where I led on the implementation of the Maternity Transformation Programme across Oxfordshire and was part of the maternity Senior Leadership Team.

FRIMLEY HEALTH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST Jan 2012 – Jan 2023

Various roles held within the trust including Rotational Midwife, Community Midwife, Postnatal Lead Midwife, Labour Ward Lead, Unit Coordinator and Emergency bleep holder.

The Florence Nightingale Foundation Leadership Award, QI project in Health Inequalities (2023)

The Mary Seacole Leadership award (Distinction, 2018)

NHS Leadership Academy – Edward Jenner Leadership Award (2017)

BSc Midwifery – Glasgow Caledonian University

Leadership To Improve The Patient Experience (CPD, Level 7, 2018)

Examination Of The Newborn (CPD, Level 7, 2014)

Midwifery practice assessor and supervisor for student midwives

Preceptor for newly qualified Midwives entering practice.

Qualifications and Memberships:

- Registered Midwife (2011)
- Member of the Royal College of Midwives
- Member of the Nursing and Midwifery Council
- MSc in Healthcare Management (with Merit, 2023)
- Qualified Newborn Life Support practitioner (NLS 2021)
- Hypnobirthing Diploma and qualified Hypnobirthing teacher (2015)