



## Women's Experience of Maternity Care

### What is the survey about?

This is a survey about your recent experience of maternity care. Your views are very important in helping us find out how good the services are and how they can be improved.

### Completing the questionnaire

Please only think about the maternity care you received in your **most recent** pregnancy and birth when answering these questions.

For most questions, please cross clearly inside one box 🗵 using a black or blue pen. For some questions you may be asked to cross more than one box.

Don't worry if you make a mistake; simply fill in the box ■ and put a cross ☒ in the correct box.

Not all sections will apply to you. Sometimes you will find the box you have crossed has an instruction to go to another question. By following the instructions carefully you will miss out questions that do not apply to you.

Please **do not** write your name or address anywhere on the questionnaire.

# Taking part in this survey is voluntary. Your answers will be treated in confidence.

If you prefer not to fill in the questionnaire, please return it blank in the freepost envelope provided.

If the survey raises issues or questions of concern, you may wish to contact your family doctor (GP) or Health Visitor.

#### **Questions or help?**

If you have any questions, please call the helpline number given in the letter enclosed with this questionnaire.

## **SECTION A. DATES AND YOUR BABY** A1. Did you give birth to a single baby, twins or more in your most recent pregnancy? □ A single baby <sub>2</sub> $\square$ Twins ₃ ☐ Triplets, quads or more **A2.** What time was your baby born? (If you had twins or more than two babies this time, please fill in this question about the baby who was born first) □ Early morning (12:01am-6:00am) <sup>2</sup> Morning (6:01am-12:00 noon) 4 D Evening / Night (6:01pm-12:00 midnight) A3. Roughly how many weeks pregnant were you when your baby was born? Before I was 37 weeks pregnant <sup>2</sup> When I was 37 weeks pregnant or more **SECTION B. CARE WHILE YOU WERE PREGNANT (ANTENATAL** CARE) The start of your care in pregnancy **B1.** Who was the **first** health professional you saw

B2. Roughly how many weeks pregnant were you when you first saw this health professional about your pregnancy care?
₁ ☐ When I was 0 to 6 weeks pregnant
<sup>2</sup> When I was 7 to 12 weeks pregnant
₃ ☐ When I was 13 or more weeks pregnant
Don't know / can't remember
B3. Roughly how many weeks pregnant were you when you had your 'booking' appointment (the appointment where you were given your pregnancy notes)?
₁ ☐ When I was 0 to 7 weeks pregnant
<sub>2</sub> When I was 8 or 9 weeks pregnant
₃ ☐ When I was 10 or 11 weeks pregnant
4 D When I was 12 weeks pregnant
$_{\scriptscriptstyle 5}$ $\square$ When I was 13 or more weeks pregnant
<sub>6</sub> □ Don't know / can't remember
B4. Were you offered any of the following choices about where to have your baby? (Cross ALL that apply)
2.5 <sub>1</sub> I was offered a choice of hospitals
2.5 2 I was offered a choice of giving birth in a midwife led unit or birth centre
2.5 3 I was offered a choice of giving birth in a consultant led unit
2.5 <sub>4</sub> I was offered a choice of giving birth at home
0 5 I was not offered any choices
$_{-6}$ $\square$ I had no choices due to medical reasons
− 7 Don't know
Note: Question B4 multiple choice question scoring

Note: Question B4 multiple choice question scoring is calculated by adding the scores from all responses (e.g. if three responses are selected, the question score is 7.5). If respondents select any of the first four options *as well* as any of the final three, the first four responses are given priority.

when you thought you were pregnant? (Cross

ONE only)

<sub>2</sub> Midwife

3 Other

□ GP / family doctor

have a home birth?	midwives appear to be aware of your medical history?
₁ ☐ Yes ₂ ☐ No	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
2 LI NO	5 2 Tyes, sometimes
<b>B6.</b> Did you get enough information from either a <b>midwife or doctor</b> to help you decide where to have your baby?	0 ₃ ☐ No  - ₄ ☐ Don't know / can't remember
10 <sub>1</sub> Yes, definitely	
5 <sub>2</sub> Yes, to some extent	B10. During your antenatal check-ups, were you given enough time to ask questions or discuss your pregnancy?
0 3 No	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
<ul> <li>- ₄ □ No, but I did not need this information</li> </ul>	5 2 Tyes, sometimes
- ₅ Don't know / can't remember	0 3 No
Antenatal check-ups	− ₄ □ Don't know
A 'check-up' is any contact with a doctor or midwife to check the progress of your pregnancy. It usually includes having your blood pressure and urine	B11.During your antenatal check-ups, did the midwives listen to you?
checked. Please ignore other appointments that did not include these things, such as a visit to the	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
hospital for a scan or a blood test only.	5 2 Yes, sometimes
B7. During your pregnancy were you given a	0 3 No
choice about where your antenatal check-ups would take place?	– ₄   ☐ Don't know / can't remember
10 <sub>1</sub> Yes	B12.During your antenatal check-ups, did a midwife
0 <sub>2</sub> No	ask you how you were feeling emotionally?
- ₃ ☐ Don't know / can't remember	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, definitely
B8. If you saw a midwife for your antenatal check-	5 2 Yes, to some extent
ups, did you see the same one every time?	0 3 <b>L</b> No
1 Yes	— ₄ □ Don't know / can't remember
<sup>2</sup> Yes, but would have preferred not to	During your pregnancy
₃ ☐ No, but I wanted to	B13.During your pregnancy, did you have a
₄ ☐ No, but I did not mind	telephone number for a midwife or midwifery team that you could contact?
₅	10 ₁ ☐ Yes
₅ ☐ I did not see a midwife	0 <sub>2</sub> No
<sub>7</sub> Don't know / can't remember	−₃ ☐ Don't know / can't remember

B14.During your pregnancy, if you contacted a midwife, were you given the help you needed?	C3. During your labour, were you able to move around and choose the position that made you most comfortable?
10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always	10 <sub>1</sub> Yes, most of the time
<ul><li>5 ₂ ☐ Yes, sometimes</li><li>0 ₃ ☐ No</li></ul>	5 2 Yes, sometimes
	0 3 No
<ul> <li>0 ₄   No, as I was not able to contact a midwife</li> <li>- ₅   I did not contact a midwife</li> </ul>	— ₄   ☐ No, but this was not possible due to medical reasons
B15.Thinking about your antenatal care, were you spoken to in a way you could understand?	C4. During your labour, what type of pain relief did you use? (Cross ALL that apply)
10 <sub>1</sub> Yes, always	₁ ☐ Natural methods (e.g. hypnosis, breathing,
5 2 Yes, sometimes	massage)
0 3 No	<sub>2</sub> Water or a birthing pool
– ₄ □ Don't know / can't remember	₃ ☐ TENS machine (with pads on your back)
B16.Thinking about your antenatal care, were you	4 Gas and air (breathing through a mask)
involved enough in decisions about your care?  10 1  Yes, always	5 L Injection of pethidine or a similar painkiller
5 2 Yes, sometimes	
0 3 <b>N</b> o	<sub>7</sub> ☐ Other
<ul> <li>- ₄ □ I did not want / need to be involved</li> </ul>	₃ ☐ I did not use pain relief
- ₅ ☐ Don't know / can't remember	
	C5. Did the pain relief you used change from what you had originally planned (before you went)
SECTION C. YOUR LABOUR AND THE BIRTH OF YOUR BABY	into labour)?
Note: If you had a planned caesarean	₁ ☐ Yes → Go to C6
please go to Question C7	2 ☐ No → Go to C7
C1. At the very start of your labour, did you feel that you were given appropriate advice and	₃ ☐ I did not use pain relief → Go to C7
support when you contacted a midwife or the hospital?	₄ ☐ I did not have a plan → Go to C7
- ₁ ☐ I did not contact a midwife or the hospital	
10 2 Tyes	
0 3 No	
C2. Did you have a home birth?	
₁ ☐ Yes	
2 <b>No</b>	

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C6. Why did you not use the choice of pain relief that you had originally planned (before you went into labour)? (Cross ALL that apply)	C9. What position were you in when your baby was born? (Cross ONE only)
For medical reasons	<sup>1</sup> Sitting / sitting supported by pillows
2    I changed my mind	<sub>2</sub> On my side
	3 Standing, squatting or kneeling
3 LI I did not need to use the pain relief I had planned to use	₄ ☐ Lying flat / lying supported by pillows
There was not time to use my planned pain relief	5 Lying with legs in stirrups
	<ul><li>6 ☐ Other</li><li>C10.Did you have skin to skin contact (baby naked,</li></ul>
6 I was told there were not enough staff to provide my chosen pain relief	directly on your chest or tummy) with your baby shortly after the birth?
<sub>7</sub> ☐ I was not told why I could not have my	10 ₁ ☐ Yes
choice of pain relief	0 2 Tyes, but I did not want this
₃ ☐ Other	0 3 No
The birth of your baby	<ul> <li>- ₄               □ No, but this was not possible for medical reasons</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>C7. Thinking about the birth of your baby, what type of delivery did you have? (If you had twins or more than two babies this time, please fill in this question about the baby who was born first)</li> <li> <sup>1</sup> □ A normal vaginal delivery → Go to C8</li> <li><sup>2</sup> □ An assisted vaginal delivery (e.g. with</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>I did not want skin to skin contact with my baby</li> <li>C11.If your partner or someone else close to you was involved in your care during labour and birth, were they able to be involved as much as they wanted?</li> <li>I I Yes</li> </ul>
forceps or ventouse suction cup)  → Go to C8	0 <sub>2</sub> No
3 ☐ A planned caesarean delivery  → Go to C10	<ul> <li>-₃ □ They did not want to be involved</li> <li>-₄ □ I did not want them to be involved</li> </ul>
<sup>4</sup> ☐ An emergency caesarean delivery  → Go to C10	- ₅ ☐ I did not have a partner or a companion with me
C8. Where did you give birth? (Cross ONE only)	The staff caring for you
₁ ☐ On a bed	C12.Did the staff treating and examining you introduce themselves?
<sub>2</sub> On the floor	10 1  Yes, all of the staff introduced themselves
<sub>3</sub> In a water or birthing pool	5 2 Some of the staff introduced themselves
₄ ☐ Other	0 ₃ ☐ Very few or none of the staff introduced themselves
	_ ₄ ☐ Don't know / can't remember

been involved in your antenatal care?	<b>birth</b> , were you spoken to in a way you could understand?
_	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
<sup>2</sup> Yes, but I did not want this	5 2 Tyes, sometimes
₃ ☐ No, but I wanted this	0 3 No
4 U No, but I did not mind	_ ₄ ☐ Don't know / can't remember
₅ ☐ Don't know / can't remember	
C14.Were you (and/or your partner or a companion) left alone by midwives or doctors at a time when it worried you? (Cross ALL that apply)	C18. Thinking about your care during labour and birth, were you involved enough in decisions about your care?
0 ₁ ☐ Yes, during early labour	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
0 2 Tyes, during the later stages of labour	5 2 Yes, sometimes
0 3 Tes, during the birth	0 з П No
0 4  Yes, shortly after the birth	- 4 I did not want / need to be involved
<u></u>	− ₅ Don't know / can't remember
10 ₅	
C15.If you raised a concern during labour and birth, did you feel that it was taken seriously?	C19. Thinking about your care during labour and birth, were you treated with respect and dignity?
10 <sub>1</sub> Yes	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
0 <sub>2</sub> No	5 2 Yes, sometimes
- ₃ ☐ I did not raise any concerns	0 з П No
	− ₄ Don't know / can't remember
C16.If you needed attention during labour and birth, were you able to get a member of staff to help you within a reasonable time?	C20.Did you have confidence and trust in the staff caring for you during your labour and birth?
10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always	10 1 Tyes, definitely
5 2 Yes, sometimes	5 2 Yes, to some extent
0 з <b>П</b> No	0 3 No
10 4 $\square$ A member of staff was with me all the time	- ₄ □ Don't know / can't remember
- ₅ I did not want / need this	- 4 Li Don't know / can't remember
− 6 Don't know / can't remember	

C17. Thinking about your care during labour and

C13. Had any of the midwives who cared for you

### SECTION D. CARE IN HOSPITAL AFTER THE BIRTH (POSTNATAL CARE)

Note: If you had a home birth and did not go to hospital, please go to question E1

3 4	5 <sub>2</sub> Tyes, sometimes
<b>D1.</b> How long did you stay in hospital after your	0 3 $\square$ No
baby was born?	_
₁ ☐ Up to 12 hours	- ₄ ☐ I did not want / need this
<sup>2</sup> More than 12 hours but less than 24 hours	− 5 Don't know / can't remember
<sub>3</sub> 1 to 2 days	<b>D6.</b> Thinking about the care you received in
₄ ☐ 3 to 4 days	hospital after the birth of your baby, were you given the information or explanations you needed?
₅ ☐ 5 or more days	10 <sub>1</sub> Yes, always
D2. Looking back, do you feel that the length of	5 <sub>2</sub> Yes, sometimes
your stay in hospital after the birth was	0 3 <b>N</b> o
0 ₁ ☐ Too long?	- ₄ □ Don't know / can't remember
0 2 Too short?	- 4 La boilt know / call tremember
10 3 About right?	D7. Thinking about the care you received in hospital after the birth of your baby, were you
− 4  Not sure / don't know	treated with kindness and understanding?
	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
D3. On the day you left hospital, was your discharge delayed for any reason?	5 2 Yes, sometimes
0 ₁ ☐ Yes → Go to D4	0 3 No
10 ₂	− 4 ☐ Don't know / can't remember
D4. What was the main reason for the delay? (Cross ONE only)	<b>D8.</b> Thinking about your stay in hospital, if your partner or someone else close to you was involved in your care, were they able to stay
₁ ☐ I had to wait for <b>medicines</b>	with you as much as you wanted? (Cross ALL that apply)
<sub>2</sub> I had to wait to <b>see the midwife/doctor</b>	10 ₁ ☐ Yes
<sub>3</sub> I had to wait for <b>test results</b>	0 2 No, as they were restricted to visiting
I had to wait for a check to be done on my baby	hours  O 3   No, as there was no accommodation for
₅ ☐ Something else	them in the hospital
<b>~</b>	<ul> <li>- ₄    ☐ No, they were not able to stay for another reason</li> </ul>
	$ _{5}$ I did not have a partner or companion with me

**D5.** If you needed attention while you were in

member of staff to help you within a

reasonable time?

10 <sub>1</sub> Yes, always

hospital after the birth, were you able to get a

was the hospital room or ward you were in?	<b>E4.</b> Were your decisions about how you wanted to feed your baby respected by midwives?
10 <sub>1</sub> Very clean	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
6.7 2  Fairly clean	5 2 Yes, sometimes
3.3 3 Not very clean	0 3 <b>N</b> o
0 4  Not at all clean	− 4 Don't know / can't remember
— ₅  ☐ Don't know / can't remember	E5. Did you feel that midwives and other health professionals gave you consistent advice
SECTION E. FEEDING YOUR BABY	about <b>feeding your baby</b> ?
E1. During your pregnancy did midwives provide	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
relevant information about feeding your baby?	5 2 Yes, sometimes
10 ₁ ☐ Yes, definitely	0 3 No
5 2 Yes, to some extent	$_{-_4}$ $\square$ I did not want or need any advice
0 3 No	0 5 I did not receive any advice
$_{\text{4}}$ $\square$ I did not want/need this information	− 6 Don't know / can't remember
– ₅   ☐ Don't know / can't remember	FO Did you fool that asiduings and other hoolth
E2. In the first few days after the birth how was your baby fed? (Cross ONE only)      □ Breast milk (or expressed breast milk) only  → Go to E4	<ul> <li>E6. Did you feel that midwives and other health professionals gave you active support and encouragement about feeding your baby?</li> <li>10 1 Yes, always</li> <li>5 2 Yes, sometimes</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>2 ☐ Both breast and formula (bottle) milk</li> <li>→ Go to E4</li> </ul>	0 ₃ ☐ No  - ₄ ☐ I did not want/need this
₃ ☐ Formula (bottle) milk only → Go to E3	<ul> <li>- ₅ □ Don't know / can't remember</li> </ul>
₄ ☐ Not sure → Go to E3	- 5 DOIT KNOW / CAIT (Terriember
E3. Did you ever try to breastfeed your baby (even if it was only once)?	SECTION F. CARE AT HOME AFTER THE BIRTH
1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No	<b>F1.</b> Were you given a choice about where your postnatal care would take place? (Postnatal care is any contact with a midwife or other health professional after leaving hospital)
	10 ₁ ☐ Yes
	0 <sub>2</sub> No
	- ₃ ☐ Don't know / can't remember

<b>F2.</b> When you were at home after the birth of your baby, did you have a telephone number for a midwife or midwifery team that you could contact?	Thinking about all the times you were visited at home or seen in a clinic by a midwife after the birth
10 ₁ ☐ Yes  0 ₂ ☐ No  - ₃ ☐ Don't know / can't remember  F3. If you contacted a midwife were you given the help you needed?  10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always  5 ₂ ☐ Yes, sometimes  0 ₃ ☐ No	F6. How many times in total did you see a midwife after you went home?  1
<ul> <li>0 ₄ □ No, as I was not able to contact a midwife</li> <li>- ₅ □ I did not contact a midwife</li> <li>F4. Since your baby's birth have you been visited</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>F7. Would you have liked to have seen a midwife</li> <li>0 1  More often?</li> <li>0 2  Less often?</li> </ul>
at home by a midwife?	<ul> <li>10 3</li></ul>
them to visit → Go to F5  3 □ No, I visited the midwife or saw a midwife in clinic → Go to F5  4 □ No, I was not offered a visit → Go to F12	you and your baby?  10 1  Yes  0 2  No  - 3  Don't know / can't remember
<ul> <li>No, I was visiting or staying near my baby in a neonatal unit (NNU, NICU, SCBU)</li> <li>→ Go to F12</li> </ul>	F9. Did you feel that the midwife or midwives that you saw always listened to you?
<ul> <li>6 ☐ No, for another reason → Go to F12</li> <li>F5. Did you see the same midwife every time?</li> <li>1 ☐ Yes</li> </ul>	10 1  Yes, always  5 2  Yes, sometimes  0 3  No
Yes, but would have preferred not to  No, but I wanted to  No, but I did not mind  I only saw a midwife once  I did not see a midwife	— ₄ ☐ Don't know / can't remember
<sub>7</sub> ☐ Don't know / can't remember	

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<b>F10.</b> Did the midwife or midwives that you saw take your personal circumstances into account when giving you advice?	F15. If, during evenings, nights or weekends, you needed support or advice about feeding your baby, were you able to get this?
10 <sub>1</sub> Yes, always	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, always
5 <sub>2</sub> Yes, sometimes	5 2 Tyes, sometimes
0 <sub>3</sub> No	0 3 <b>N</b> o
− 4  This was not necessary	- ₄ □ I did not need this
− ₅ Don't know / can't remember	− ₅ Don't know / can't remember
F11. Did you have confidence and trust in the midwives you saw after going home?	F16. In the six weeks after the birth of your baby did
10 ₁ ☐ Yes, definitely	you receive help and advice from health professionals about your <b>baby's health and</b>
5 <sub>2</sub> Yes, to some extent	progress?  10 1  Yes, definitely
0 <sub>3</sub> No	5 2 Yes, to some extent
— ₄ ☐ Don't know / can't remember	0 3 No
F12. Did a midwife or health visitor ask you how you were feeling emotionally?	<ul><li>- ₄ □ I did not need any</li></ul>
10 ₁ ☐ Yes	− ₅ Don't know / can't remember
0 <sub>2</sub> No	F17. Were you given enough information about any
— ₃  ☐ Don't know / can't remember	emotional changes you might experience after the birth?
F13. Were you given enough information about your own <b>physical</b> recovery after the birth?	10 ₁ ☐ Yes, definitely
10 ₁ ☐ Yes, definitely	5 2 Tyes, to some extent
5 <sub>2</sub> Yes, to some extent	0 3 No
0 <sub>3</sub> No	$_{-4}$ $\square$ No, but I did not need this information
$_{\text{-}_{\text{4}}}$ $\square$ No, but I did not need this information	− ₅ Don't know / can't remember
— ₅  ☐ Don't know / can't remember	F18. Were you told who you could contact if you
F14. In the six weeks after the birth of your baby did you receive help and advice from a midwife or	needed advice about any emotional changes you might experience after the birth?
health visitor about <b>feeding your baby</b> ?	10 ₁ ☐ Yes
10 1  Yes, definitely	0 2 No
5 <sub>2</sub> Yes, to some extent	−₃ Don't know / can't remember
0 ₃ ∐ No	
<ul><li>- ₄ ☐ I did not need any</li></ul>	
<ul> <li>- 5 ☐ Don't know / can't remember</li> <li>Copyright of the Care Quality Commission</li> </ul>	page 10

from a health professional about contraception?  10 1  Yes  0 2  No  - 3  Don't know / can't remember	conditions? (Cross ALL that apply)  Deafness or severe hearing impairment  Blindness or partially sighted  A long-standing physical condition  A learning disability
<ul> <li>F20. Did a midwife tell you that you would need to arrange a postnatal check-up of your own health with your GP? (Around 6-8 weeks after the birth)</li> <li>10 1  Yes</li> <li>0 2  No</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A mental health condition</li> <li>A long-standing illness, such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy</li> <li>No, I do not have a long-standing condition</li> </ul>
- ₃ ☐ Don't know / can't remember  SECTION G. YOU AND YOUR	G5. What is your religion?
Please complete as many of these questions as you can. Your answers will help us to describe the women taking part in the survey and to find out whether the care offered to women is the same regardless of their background or circumstances.  G1. In what year were you born?  (Please write in) e.g. 1 9 8 5	Buddhist  Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant, and other Christian denominations)  Hindu  Jewish  Muslim  Sikh  Other
<ul> <li>G2. Have you had a previous pregnancy?</li> <li> <sup>1</sup> ☐ Yes → Go to G3</li> <li> <sup>2</sup> ☐ No → Go to G4</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>G6. Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself?</li> <li>Heterosexual / straight</li> <li>Gay / lesbian</li> </ul>
G3. How many babies have you given birth to before this pregnancy?  1 None 2 1-2 3 3 or more	Bisexual  Other  I would prefer not to say

G7. What is your ethnic group? (Cross ONE box	H. OTHER COMMENTS
only)	If there is anything else you would like to tell us
a. WHITE	about your maternity care, please do so here.
<ul><li>English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British</li></ul>	Please note that the comments you provide in the box below will be looked at in full by the
2 🗖 Irish	NHS Trust, the Care Quality Commission and researchers analysing the data. We will remove
₃ ☐ Gypsy or Irish Traveller	any information that could identify you before
₄ ☐ Any other White background,	publishing any of your feedback.
write in	
b. MIXED / MULTIPLE ETHNIC GROUPS	
₅ ☐ White and Black Caribbean	
₀ ☐ White and Black African	
√ White and Asian	
8 Any other Mixed / multiple ethnic	
background, write in	
c. ASIAN / ASIAN BRITISH	
<sub>9</sub>	
10 Pakistani	
11 🚨 Bangladeshi	
12 Chinese	
₁₃ ☐ Any other Asian background,	
write in	
d. BLACK / AFRICAN / CARIBBEAN / BLACK BRITISH	
14 African	
15 Caribbean	
16 Any other Black / African / Caribbean	
background, write in	
	THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP
e. OTHER ETHNIC GROUP	Please check that you answered all the questions that apply to you.
17 Arab	Please post this questionnaire back in the
18 Any other ethnic group,	FREEPOST envelope provided.
write in	No stamp is needed.
	If you have concerns about the care you or others have received please contact CQC on 03000 61 61 61.