



SEPT 2023

**University of Brighton**

# MATERNITY PLACEMENT

SPECIALIST MATERNAL AND  
OBSTETRIC CARE IN HIGH AND  
LOW RISK PATIENTS

Prepared by: Jessica Rimmer  
Practice Placement Lead

The University of Brighton  
Paramedic Practice  
J.E.Rimmer@brighton.ac.uk

# 02

## PLACEMENT DETAILS

Duration: 2 weeks  
3 days/week (8-12hr shifts)

Location: Variable in Sussex, Surrey and Kent  
Please check your allocation

Completed in: Year 3

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

LO1: Observe or discuss antenatal assessment, including “maternity records” and the importance of gathering relevant and accurate information prior to hospital admission.

LO2: Observe or discuss a range of obstetric emergencies including;

- Vaginal delivery – head first
- Vaginal delivery – unusual presentations
- Caesarean section

LO3: Observe or discuss postnatal care including;

- Assessment and stimulation of a newborn
- Assessment and care of post-natal patient

LO4: Observe or discuss haemorrhage control for postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) and how to effectively estimate blood loss.

## 03

# WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

## A SPECIALIST SUPPORTED LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

*"Understand the need to demonstrate sensitivity to the factors which shape lifestyle that may affect the individual's health and the interaction between the service user and paramedic"*

- HEALTH AND CARE PROFESSIONS COUNCIL (HCPC), STANDARDS OF PROFICIENCY, 2014

During this placement you can expect to see a range of ante-natal and post-natal care options as well as obstetric emergencies.

This placement is the perfect opportunity for you to learn first hand how obstetric presentations and newborn assessments are approached and managed.

This placement is an interactive placement allowing you an opportunity to practice your own skills and gain guidance and competency sign-offs, where relevant and appropriate. It is important to remember that some expectant parents may decline students for personal reasons.

## CONTINUED...

Although each students' experience may differ due to patients and staffing, you can expect to have direct involvement with a variety of clinical presentations.

As your learning objectives indicate, it is also beneficial to utilise this placement to help you further understand "maternity records", gain useful tips on estimation of blood loss and learn about further escalations of care that are available in the hospital setting.



## 05

## WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME?

TO BE POSITIVE, CALM AND RESPECTFUL

*"You should treat service users and carers as individuals, respecting their privacy and dignity"*

- HEALTH AND CARE PROFESSIONS COUNCIL (HCPC), STANDARDS OF CONDUCT, PERFORMANCE AND ETHICS, 2016

Please remember that this placement is often a very personal, private and momentous occasion for our patients. You will have the opportunity to play an active role in the treatment and management of obstetric patients, new-borns and often patient friends/families/partners under the direct supervision of a suitably qualified clinician.

This placement requires a proactive approach to seek out your own opportunities in a respectful and professional manner.

### YOUR TO DO LIST:

- Contact placement to arrange shifts a minimum of 3 weeks in advance.
- Attend shift without fail and on time, except for extenuating circumstances.
- Maintain a professional attitude with enthusiasm and willingness to learn - remember, you represent ALL student paramedics!
- If attendance to a shift is affected by personal circumstances, follow normal absence reporting procedures ensuring the placement and your personal tutor are informed.

## 06

## HOW DOES THIS RELATE TO STUDENT PARAMEDICS?

### EXPERIENCE, COMPETENCIES AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Due to the variable nature of the pre-hospital environment we never know when we will be dispatched to an obstetric emergency and it presents us with multiple factors that each require specific skills.

This placement is vital in increasing your exposure and expanding your skills and knowledge of how to support and treat parturient patients, neonates and newborns and also families and partners.

You will gain first hand insight into varying obstetric emergencies and services available both in and out of hospital.

## PAD DOCUMENTS

Supervisors on any placement have no obligation to sign your PAD competencies. However, if you are seen by a supervisor to have met the competency in a safe and effective manner you can request;

A Summative sign off **if they have a Mentorship/Supervisor qualification.**



# 07

## TIPS

### HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS PLACEMENT

To gain as much as possible from this experience, it is recommended you engage in any observations that are offered as part of this placement and actively seek opportunities to broaden your knowledge and understanding.

There are no formal assessments or assignments for this, but it may be helpful to seek answers to the following questions:

- How many people work in this department and what are their roles?
- How are they contacted/referred to?
- How are patients received, triaged and managed?
- What community services are there available for Paramedics to contact directly?
- What tips can you give for estimating blood loss in the pre-hospital environment?
- What is a doula and what is their role?
- What advice do you have for supporting family members/partners?

## HINT

Why not complete a short reflection to allow you to consolidate your learning and highlight areas of interest? It will look great in your continuing professional development (CPD) folder!



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Placement Lead

Jessica Rimmer – [j.e.rimmer@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:j.e.rimmer@brighton.ac.uk)

### Course Lead

Mark Durell - [m.durell@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:m.durell@brighton.ac.uk)

### Personal Tutors

Chris Matthews – [c.matthews3@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:c.matthews3@brighton.ac.uk)

Chris Storey – [c.storey@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:c.storey@brighton.ac.uk)

Dan Jarman – [d.jarman@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:d.jarman@brighton.ac.uk)

Kate Turnough – [c.turnough@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:c.turnough@brighton.ac.uk)

Maddi Cole - [m.b.cole@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:m.b.cole@brighton.ac.uk)

Paul Saunders – [p.saunders2@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:p.saunders2@brighton.ac.uk)

### Placement Admin Support

Kirsty Mcdonald – [k.i.mcdonald@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:k.i.mcdonald@brighton.ac.uk)

## LINKS TO HCPC STANDARDS

[HCPC Guidance on conduct and ethics for students](#)

[HCPC Standards of conduct, performance and ethics](#)

[HCPC Standards of proficiency](#)