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# New mothers' views on continuity of care provided by midwives and health visitors

Olander, E.K., Senior Lecturer in Maternal and Child Health, [Ellinor.olander@city.ac.uk](mailto:Ellinor.olander@city.ac.uk)

Aquino, R., Chhoa, C., Harris, E., Lee, S. & Bryar R.

Centre for Maternal and Child Health Research  
School of Health Sciences  
City, University of London

This study is part of the  
COPE project, for info see  
<https://blogs.city.ac.uk/cope/>

# Study aim and methodology

## *Aim*

- To elicit women's experiences of the continuity of care provided by midwives and health visitors in relation to their and their infant's care.

## *Methods and participants*

- Recruited 28 women with a child younger than 12 months (mean age mother 33 yrs, mean age child 5 mths, 65% 1<sup>st</sup> time mothers)
- Recruited through social media, National Childbirth Trust, word of mouth
- Semi-structured interviews by phone (16 – 49 minutes)
- Analysed using thematic analysis

# Findings and conclusion

## *Expectations regarding information sharing*

- Some surprise health visitors not aware of what was told to midwife or what happened in pregnancy.
- Happy for medical information to be shared between healthcare professionals.
- Assume midwives and health visitors know what is important to share.

## **Conclusion**

- Midwives and health visitors should be
  - *Reassured* that women are happy for information regarding their care to be shared.
  - *Encouraged* to share information to improve care.