

Collaboration for safer and sustainable maternity care in the South West region

Speaker biographies

Co-hosts

Leann Morris, RM, BSc (Hons) Midwifery
NHS Resolution - Senior Programme Manager
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Leann Morris is a highly experienced registered midwife with over 13 years working within the NHS. In her current role as the Senior Programme Manager in the Safety and Learning team at NHS Resolution, Leann leads the crucial evaluation of NHS Resolutions two landmark maternity schemes: the Maternity Incentive Scheme and the Early Notification Scheme. Throughout her career, Leann has built a strong foundation of clinical expertise, complemented by her work in governance, safety, and practice development at local, regional, and national levels. Her passion for fostering a culture of safety and continuous learning is evident in her ongoing pursuit of a master's degree in Patient Safety and Human Factors.

In addition to her leadership roles, Leann is also a certified Newborn Life Support instructor, reflecting her deep commitment to ensuring the highest standards of care for both mothers and newborns.

Heather Durston - Hillyer
DAC Beachcroft - Partner & Location Head



Heather specialises in clinical negligence claims defending a range of NHS and private health clients. She has over 25 years' experience advising key health clients including NHS Resolution (formerly NHSLA), the medical defence union and NHS Trusts across the south of England. She is currently involved in many complex and high value matters including those involving brain and spinal injury to both adults and children. Cases that Heather is currently managing include those involving complex liability and quantum issues arising from paediatric meningitis, stroke, cauda equina and other catastrophic neurological injuries. Heather has particular expertise in birth injury claims involving cerebral and Erb's palsy as well as wrongful birth.

Joanna Lloyd
Bevan Brittan - Partner



I lead the Health & Care - Resolution & Regulatory department based in our Bristol office and I am a clinical negligence specialist with a focus on resolving complex and high-value clinical negligence disputes, particularly those involving obstetric and brain injury. I also run the Inquest team and am a dual qualified barrister and solicitor. I have a passionate interest in patient safety, and I act for a broad base of NHS clients. My role also involves leading a large team of lawyers advising the NHS about the multiplicity of processes that arise following an adverse incident. I run a patient safety focus group within Bevan Brittan to explore how we can align the work that we do on behalf of the NHS so claims and inquest data can support patient safety developments.

I work closely with acute Trusts and Trust Boards to identify themes from claims and complaints. The opportunity provided via two Lay appointments to Government Advisory Panels, has given me a platform to use my experience of health related adverse incidents constructively to challenge and test the conclusions of each Panel. My aim has been to ensure that patients have been put at the centre of decision making.

Maternity Claims Data & Early Notification Case Themes

Caroline Latham-Parker, RM, BSc (Hons) Midwifery, MSc Healthcare Leadership
NHS Resolution - Associate Safety & Learning Lead - South
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Caroline Latham-Parker is a registered Midwife with academic attainment in Adult Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting. She has extensive clinical experience from both Midwifery and Health Visiting, working in both acute and community settings. Caroline has experience of leadership at team, service and system level with significant management of change for clinically facing staff, team leaders and clinical leads. During the last six years Caroline has used her clinical expertise and leadership skills to develop and monitor quality assurance. She has supported the quality improvement of healthcare services at Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Integrated Care System (ICS) and at Regional level.

In her most recent academic achievement, an MSc in Healthcare Leadership via the NHS Leadership Academy, Caroline's interest focussed on leadership behaviours, particularly the 'Trust' required within leadership and the impact on team effectiveness to assure patient safety at a system level. Caroline commenced her role as an Associate Safety & Learning Lead in December 2022 and is committed to supporting Trusts with learning from claims underpinned by a safety culture and prioritising improvement to have the greatest impact on patient safety.

Ingrid Henderson, BSc(hons) RGN, RM Dip, IBCLC, MSc Risk,
NHS Resolution - Associate Safety & Learning Lead – London and South West
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Ingrid qualified as a nurse in 1992 and worked in a high dependency cardiothoracic unit in South London for a year before moving to the West country and starting her midwifery career, qualifying as a midwife in 1995. Ingrid has worked in all areas of midwifery both acute and community. Ingrid led an acute trust with four standalone birth centres and a neonatal unit through the UNICEF baby friendly initiative programme to full accreditation. Ingrid qualified as an international board certified lactation consultant and led on infant feeding, tongue tie service and peer support service for over 6 years before taking up the role as senior midwife in charge of a community midwifery team.

Ingrid was an occasional lecturer at the University West of England in infant feeding. Ingrid undertook a master's in risk management in health and social care with Bangor University which spurred her interest in patient safety and governance. Ingrid moved formally into a governance role in 2017 and has continued in this field since, leading on quality improvement. Ingrid managed a women's service governance team for 5 years leading on NHSR maternity incentive scheme years 1-4, response to Ockenden and subsequent national enquires and working as an expert patient safety investigator within the old Serious incident and new PSIRF framework. Ingrid has worked with NHSR since July 2023 firstly in the early notification team and more recently with the safety and learning team.

Jayne Poole, RGN, RM, BSc (Hons) Midwifery, MSc Healthcare Leadership
NHS Resolution - Safety & learning Lead (Early Notification Team)
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I qualified as a midwife in 1995 and have worked across all areas of maternity care, before specialising in high-risk intrapartum care, and subsequently gaining several years' experience in management and healthcare leadership. I am passionate about quality and safety in maternity care and improving outcomes for mothers and babies. Having worked as Clinical Governance Lead for maternity in an acute Trust, I am experienced in all aspects of quality improvement and risk management, including investigating patient safety incidents.

I joined NHS Resolution in July 2022 as a National Midwifery Clinical Fellow and have been in my current role as Safety and Learning Lead (Early Notification Team) since Feb 2023. This role involves undertaking clinical reviews and thematic analyses of early notification incidents providing feedback to trusts and aiming to contribute to the national maternity ambition through collaboration and sharing learning with key stakeholders.

An evaluation of an outpatient hypertension service in maternity services

Angela Willis

Great Western Hospital NHS Foundation Trust - Hazel Ward Manager



Angela Willis is a Midwife of 12 years across a range of midwifery departments and is now Hazel ward manager (antenatal and postnatal ward) at GWH. Angie has an MSc in professional development, has undertaken her SCPHN training and has just completed a secondment with BSW ICB and GNHS as a Chief Sustainability Officer clinical fellow working on a range of sustainability related healthcare projects. Angie's most important role is being a mum to her two girls at home.

Maternity Incentive Scheme

Bridget Dack, Specialist areas (Maternity, Quality Improvement, Governance)
NHS Resolution - Maternity Incentive Scheme Clinical Lead
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Bridget joined NHS Resolution as the Maternity Incentive Scheme (MIS) Clinical Lead in April 2023. She is a clinical midwife by background and continues to work clinically regularly. Bridget is incredibly proud to have worked in midwifery for around 25 years, including many years coordinating a busy Delivery Suite which she loved despite the many challenges of the role! Along the way she spent some time as a Sexual Health Matron, an MIS and Ockenden lead, an RCM Union Learning Representative, an IT Liaison midwife and a Supervisor of Midwives. She also trained in elements of advanced clinical midwifery practice including working as a Midwife Ventouse Practitioner.

Bridget is passionate about women's health, maternity safety, and quality improvement. She is an accredited associate member of the Quality, Service Improvement, and Redesign (QSIR) teaching faculty, and consequently has an unhealthy enthusiasm for SPC charts and a good process map! She is a huge advocate of lifelong learning and was thrilled to have recently been awarded a Florence Nightingale Leadership Scholarship. This has opened-up some amazing opportunities which she looks forward to sharing more about. Bridget is also a very proud Mum of two, a seamstress, a dachshund owner (Quincy and Columbo), and an enthusiast of all things Japanese.

ありがとうございます (thank you very much!)

Selina Dubison, Specialist areas (Maternity)
NHS Resolution - Maternity Incentive Scheme Associate
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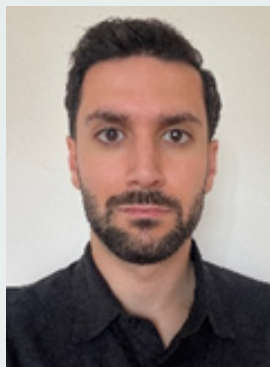


Selina became a registered nurse in 2006, initially working in gynaecological oncology for three years before earning her BSc (Hons) in Midwifery. She honed her skills in the obstetric triage and assessment unit, then transitioned to governance, driven by a passion to empower midwives and healthcare professionals to deliver exceptional care. During her time in governance, Selina successfully changed perceptions within her unit. She organized educational events, such as raising awareness about Group B Streptococcus in pregnancy and newborns. Her efforts were so impactful that she was invited to present at the GBS conference in 2022.

Selina also led a Quality Improvement Project that enhanced the efficiency of the Avoiding Term Admissions into the Neonatal Unit (ATAIN) review process, increasing review processing rates by 50%. She achieved this by integrating a system for reviewing ATAIN cases within the Datix system, training the multidisciplinary team, and coordinating review meetings. This initiative significantly raised awareness of ATAIN across all staff disciplines. Her deep understanding of governance has been invaluable in her role within the MIS team, where she enjoys supporting and advising staff in their pursuit of excellence in patient safety. This, in turn, contributes to safer maternity care for women and birthing people within maternity services.

Consent for intrapartum procedures and experience of women in labour

Andrew Demetri
Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists -
Obstetrics clinical research fellow



I am an obstetrics and gynaecology registrar doctor based in the South West of England, in the Severn Deanery, currently at ST6 level in my training. I am currently working for the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists as an obstetrics clinical research fellow. I previously held a 3-year position as an academic clinical fellow associated with the University of Bristol, whilst working clinically at North Bristol NHS Trust. My main research interests are on improving birth experiences, and I have undertaken qualitative research into decision-making and consent during the intrapartum period. Most recently I have led a project to develop a core information set on vaginal birth, to ensure women and birth partners are better informed about potential birth experiences.

Informed consent, Communication and Culture within a maternity unit

Trudie Roberts

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust - Maternity Matron, Compliance, Governance, and Workforce

Clare Gray

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust - Patient safety lead midwife



Trudie is maternity Matron, Compliance, governance, and Workforce at The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust. Trudie has over 40 years experience in acute NHS roles (35 years in maternity).

Clare is the patient safety lead midwife for Royal Cornwall. Clare has been a midwife for 18yrs, training in Cambridge and working there as both a delivery suite coordinator and birth centre manager. Clare has also worked as a midwife in a large maternity hospital in Spain, experiencing the European maternity system. She moved to Cornwall in 2016 and has specialised in patient safety since. Her passion lies in having honest conversations and a good safety culture.