

Royal College of General Practitioners and Warwick Medical School
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Abstract Submission Form

PRESENTER'S DETAILS	
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Category Audit and Questionnaire	
PRESENTATION DETAILS	
Authors Danniella Browne Kate Owen Alex Clark	Title of Study An audit and questionnaire exploring the impact of the NICE 2006 Guidelines for maternal postnatal consultations in primary care
What's the problem you are tackling? A high demand for better quality of care during the postnatal period was found and NICE responded by bringing out 'Postnatal care up to 8 weeks after birth' guidelines in 2006. Six core criteria that should be covered during every 6-8 week maternal postnatal consultation were identified from the guidelines. This study aims to determine how the release of the guidelines impacted on the coverage of these six core criteria.	
How did/will you do it? An audit in primary care was carried out for maternal postnatal consultations during four different time periods; 2005, 2007, 2011 and 2015/16. Consultation notes were analysed for documentation of the six core criteria. The questionnaire (completed by 49 GPs) responses to a question asking for the content of a standard maternal postnatal consultation was analysed against the core criteria.	
What did you find? 270 maternal postnatal consultations were scrutinised for the four years audited. The expected standard of 100% was not achieved. In 2005, a mean of 37.6%, and in 2007, 45.2% of the six core criteria were covered. This is statistically significantly different. The questionnaire found a mean of 48.6% of the core criteria were listed in response to a question asking for the content of a maternal postnatal consultation.	
Why does this matter? A significant difference was found in coverage of the core criteria between the years 2005 and 2007, suggesting the guidelines did have an impact on postnatal consultations, thus improving practice. The questionnaire results confirmed a wider concern for lack of compliance with the guidelines, instead of simply a documentation issue.	