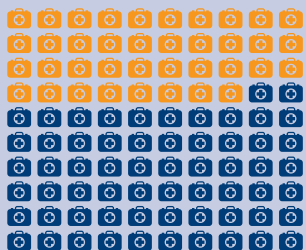


Bereavement care in UK maternity units 2016: A snapshot

Bereavement care for parents who experience the death of a baby continues to be highly variable across the country. Sands' recent survey of maternity units suggests that many Trusts and Health Boards across the UK continue to lack resources to provide the level of care that bereaved families need.



38% of maternity units **do not** have a specialist bereavement midwife based there.

Sands groups help to fund bereavement care training for hospitals that they work with.

Bereavement care training is mandatory in only **46%** of Trusts and Health Boards.

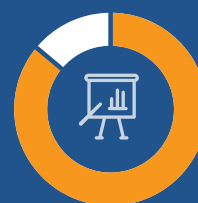
Where bereavement care training is mandatory,



66% of this is annual training.



Of those that have annual mandatory training,



86% of Trusts and Health Boards **allocate only an hour or less.**



1 in 3 Trusts and Health Boards **do not** have a dedicated bereavement room in each maternity unit they cover.



1 in 10 Trusts and Health Boards have **no** dedicated bereavement rooms at all.

Sands groups help to fund the creation of and improvements to bereavement rooms at local hospitals.

When Trusts and Health Boards need to translate information for parents:



83% always or usually use trained interpreters, but;



16% always or usually use fathers or partners, and;





17% use children out of hours and/or in emergencies.

Survey responses were obtained from 79 Trusts and Health Boards across the UK, covering at least 364,216 deliveries, 1453 stillbirths and 543 neonatal deaths in 2015. Data collected June-August 2016.

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It is crucial that Trusts and Health Boards have the right resources and policies in place to ensure bereaved parents receive the personalised care they need, and that staff are properly trained and supported to be able to provide this.