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Dear colleague,

Maternity and Neonatal Safety Improvement Programme

We are writing to tell you about changes we are making with immediate effect to support clinical colleagues and patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some parts of the National Patient Safety Programme's current and planned future activities will be put on hold to enable the programme team, academic health science network, patient safety collaborative (PSC), trust and community-based colleagues to focus on supporting the essential work of the national COVID-19 response.

All Maternity and Neonatal Safety Improvement Programme (MatNeoSIP) activities are being reviewed to see which could be developed and/or scaled up to contribute to the national COVID-19 effort. The key objective is to provide maximum support to frontline colleagues in the NHS and the community.

Therefore, the MatNeoSIP will be stopping all non-essential communication and **pausing activities as follows:**

Original requirement	New requirement
Face-to-face meetings with PSC leads	Maintain contact remotely as required
Clinical improvement leaders' group (CILG) attendance at meetings	CILG activities paused
Data submission to MatNeo portal	Data submission paused
Attendance at local learning system (LLS) events	LLS events to cease until further notice
Culture debriefing sessions to occur	Culture debriefing sessions to cease
Quality improvement (QI) capability building to occur	QI capability building to cease
QI work to occur across all MatNeo primary drivers	Only QI work directly related to COVID-19 to occur (MatNeo deterioration, identification, escalation and response), until further notice



We are currently reviewing the available resource within each of our PSC networks as some colleagues return to support frontline clinical practice. The MatNeoSIP will support PSCs by:

- supporting all COVID-19-related improvement work (the adoption and spread of policies, procedures and pathways related to identification, escalation and response of deterioration in mother or baby: for example, risk identification, sepsis, fetal monitoring, NEWTT)
- supporting trusts with business-as-usual activities to release frontline clinical staff
- supporting the Maternity Transformation Programme with COVID-19-related activities
- working with local maternity systems, clinical networks, commissioners and others on COVID-19-related challenges
- sharing intelligence and making connections at trust, regional and national level to accelerate COVID-19-related improvement work
- working with senior improvement leads and strategic stakeholders to align, disseminate, co-ordinate and plan activities for the programme's current and future needs.

Finally, many of you attended the national learning event only two weeks ago, where we shared learning from the last three years and celebrated your safety improvements. Thank you for making that event such a success and for the excellent posters you produced. For those of you who attended the event, they are available on the event app, Guidebook.

Thank you for your continued dedication to patients' safety and care. Please stay well and let us know how we can help and support you.

Overleaf is a contact sheet with details of our programme team and your PSC MatNeo leads, should you have any queries or concerns.

With kind regards,



Heather Pritchard

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National Patient Safety Improvement Programmes

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