

COMMUNITY CARE AFTER STILLBIRTH AND SECOND TRIMESTER MISCARRIAGE



RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK ASKED WOMEN IN THE WEST MIDLANDS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY COME HOME FROM HOSPITAL AFTER A STILLBIRTH OR SECOND TRIMESTER MISCARRIAGE

THEY SAID....

"telling the story is exhausting"



charities, faith groups and community groups provide a lot of support



they often had to find their own help



"you don't know who to talk to, or what to say, without making someone else feel bad"

there was no continuity

the words used by doctors and midwives were often insensitive or awkward



it's difficult to remember and absorb verbal information



care needs to be flexible and individual

there was no NHS care for partners or families



community care is a postcode lottery



"the GP asked where the baby was"



returning to hospital doesn't feel safe



care needs to be offered more than once

there was often little or no support or follow up from doctors and midwives in the community

the hospital didn't communicate well with the GP



there was no care for physical health

"peer support can... normalise common concerns"



antenatal appointments need to be cancelled

"felt dropped"

need to be told what support is available

WHAT NEXT....

RESEARCH WORKING WITH WOMEN AND PARTNERS TO IMPROVE THE CARE THEY RECEIVE IN THE COMMUNITY