



## Birth & transfer

# Collaboration with parents in ante- and perinatal care

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## Statement of the standard

Pregnant women and their partners receive complete and accurate personalised **information and support during pregnancy and childbirth** to achieve efficient, optimal and respectful **collaboration**.



### For parents and family

- (Pregnant) women are informed by healthcare professionals about risk factors, symptoms/signs for impending pregnancy complications and information on patient organisations.
- Parents are informed by healthcare professionals about available techniques and procedures for diagnosis, and therapies, including associated risks.
- Parents receive timely counselling with trained and experienced multidisciplinary staff to discuss their fears and concerns and to make informed decisions about the pregnancy and their infant.
- Parents have access to psychological support during pregnancy and during their time on the neonatal unit.
- Expectant parents with high-risk pregnancies can visit the neonatal unit and get to know the team.

## Benefits

- Better informed pregnant women and their partners
- Reduced risk and early recognition of pregnancy complications allowing earlier prophylactic and therapeutic treatments
- Better informed parents in situations necessitating consensual decisions such as preterm labour or preterm delivery and/or postnatal care
- Improved parental confidence when interacting with healthcare professionals
- Reduced stress and anxiety for parents



### For healthcare professionals

- A unit policy on collaboration with parents in ante- and perinatal care is adhered to by all healthcare professionals.
- Training on communicating clinical information to parents to ensure they receive relevant information is attended by all healthcare professionals.
- Data used to counsel parents set local specific data in context of national outcomes.



### For neonatal unit

- A unit policy on collaboration with parents in ante- and perinatal care is available and regularly updated.
- The neonatal and obstetric teams work together to produce information for mothers with high-risk pregnancies and jointly counsel parents.



### For hospital

- Training on communicating clinical information to parents in ante- and perinatal care is ensured.
- Accommodation is available for the partner in the hospital or nearby and other family members are allowed to visit.
- Satisfaction with parent information and communication are regularly audited.



### For health service

- A national guideline on collaboration with parents in ante- and perinatal care is available and regularly updated.
- Parent representatives contribute to the development of a guideline for high-risk pregnancies and infants.

