

Reproduction Research Group Seminar Series

Wednesday 22nd February 2017, 12 – 1.30

Room 4.01 of the Edith Murphy

Dr Rosemary Garratt, Dr Charlotte Powell and Deborah Bamber, School of Nursing & Midwifery, De Montfort University.

‘Development and Preliminary Evaluation of an Intervention Package to Support Parents of Excessively Crying Infants – The Surviving Crying Study’

As places are limited, please email rrg@dmu.ac.uk if you wish to attend to secure your place.

Abstract

The ‘Surviving Crying’ study is the first step in developing routine NHS Services to support parents of babies who cry for a prolonged period of time. Prolonged or excessive infant crying can trigger maternal depression, poor parent-child relationships, premature ending of breastfeeding, over-feeding, problems with long-term child development, and in a small number of cases, infant abuse. Yet, there are no tried and tested NHS practices for supporting parents in managing the crying. Instead, parents turn to popular books, magazines or websites, which often give conflicting advice. By providing evidence-based services, the aim is to improve parents’ wellbeing, infant outcomes, and how NHS money is spent.

This study, funded by the NIHR, is in 2 stages, involving firstly, developing a package of materials to support parents with an excessively crying baby and secondly, feasibility study of the package implementation in the NHS. The study has recently closed to recruitment so findings from Stage 1 will be presented along with a process focused overview of Stage 2.

Speaker biographies

Rosemary Garratt is a Senior Lecturer in Midwifery with 30 years experience in midwifery education. She has been working on the Surviving Crying Study within the school of Nursing and Midwifery, De Montfort University, from its inception in 2014. She received her Doctorate from De Montfort University for her work on the working lives of Independent Midwives and their perceptions of the mother midwife relationship. Rosemary's research interests focus on relational care in the area of reproductive health and the potential of this to

facilitate appropriate care provision and the identification of risks to well-being. She has a particular interest in hermeneutic phenomenology .

Charlotte Powell is a Senior Research Fellow working specifically on the Surviving Crying Study within the school of Nursing and Midwifery, De Montfort University. She received her Doctorate in Psychology from the University of Leicester for work focusing on the introduction of compulsory drug treatment into the Criminal Justice System. She has worked on a number of NIHR funded projects within mental health settings and has experience of conducting research within local treatment settings both within the NHS and the probation service, primarily in relation to substance abuse. Charlottes research interests focus on working alongside the NHS to develop the evidence base aiming to improve service provision, particularly around parents with young infants.

Deborah Bamber is a Senior Research Fellow working specifically on the Surviving Crying Study, within the School of Nursing and Midwifery, De Montfort University. Deborah has a background of applied research with considerable experience of conducting research within local drug and alcohol treatment settings within the NHS. Deborah has worked on a number of NIHR-funded studies and a variety of smaller scale projects within substance misuse and mental health settings. Her particular interest was around women and alcohol and older adult problem drinkers. Current research interests focus on working alongside the NHS to develop the evidence base to improve health service provision, particularly around parents with young infants.