



# Centre for Maternal and Child Enquiries

*Improving the health of mothers, babies and children*

## **CMACE STATEMENT RE REPORT ON ALBANY GROUP PRACTICE**

The report commissioned by King's College Hospital (King's) in respect of adverse outcomes at the Albany Group Practice, is available on request from King's via email on [mediateam@kch.nhs.uk](mailto:mediateam@kch.nhs.uk) or by phone 0203 299 3257.

The principal methodology used by CMACE for this report was retrospective case note review and this was undertaken by independent multidisciplinary panels of clinicians, including a number of senior midwifery professionals. The assessors did not know the source of the cases.

Case note review has been used for many years and a recent House of Commons Health Committee report "Patient Safety" advocated wider use of the methodology. It is important that lessons are learned from adverse outcomes in health care which often have tragic consequences for patients and their families. CMACE uses retrospective case note review to assess adverse outcomes to determine whether there are recurrent themes. The aim is to identify opportunities for service improvement so that adverse outcomes can be reduced. Case note review provides some unique strengths as a method of assessing past events, but, as with all review methodologies, it also inevitably has some limitations. These are all fully outlined in the report.

In the case of the Albany Group Practice, recurrent themes were identified in the adverse outcomes reviewed. Careful consideration was given to the lessons which should be learned. As a result a number of recommendations were made aimed at reducing adverse outcomes in the future for mothers and babies. The report itself provides full explanations for the recommendations made. Explanation for any actions taken beyond those recommended made by the report would need to be sought from King's.