



## 1<sup>st</sup> Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

Normal Labour and Birth: 12th Research Conference:

### **‘Normal birth; into the future’**

The Grange Hotel Conference Centre, Grange Over Sands, English Lake District  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017

#### **Background**

This is the twelfth international conference in a series that is designed to disseminate research, theory, art, drama, policy and practice relating to physiological childbirth. The conference will address social, cultural, physiological, psychological, emotional and spiritual aspects of labour and birth. It will examine new developments in the current evidence base on the nature of and cultures around birth, and on associated processes and outcomes of labour and birth. Papers will cover primary and secondary research, methodological debates, and new philosophies and constructs in this area. We are interested in submissions in any of the following areas:

1. Studies that integrate knowledge from a range of scientific approaches and/or perspectives
2. Basic science studies of the physiology, biochemistry, psychology, and sociology of normal labour and birth
3. Studies of and contributions to practice and/or service organisation
4. Studies of collaboration to improve maternal, infant, family, and maternity staff wellbeing
5. Examinations of building design and of the physical and psychosocial environment of birth
6. The identification and examination of relevant outcomes relating to labour and birth
7. Social and cultural precursors and consequences of optimal childbirth
8. Emotional and spiritual aspects of labour and birthing
9. Educational aspects
10. Economic analyses
11. Philosophical and theoretical critiques and debates
12. Methodological innovations in this and associated areas
13. Drama, virtual reality, and other multi-media and e-technology approaches

## **Conference Aims**

The conference will provide the opportunity to develop and disseminate evidence in the area of normal labour and birth, to enhance clinical practice, education, management, supervision, service delivery, and policy, and to further research collaboration.

## **Keynote speakers:**

### **Objectives**

1. To disseminate ongoing and complete research
2. To provide the opportunity for collaboration and debate
3. To discuss an agenda for the future in the area of normal labour and birth

## **Participants**

This conference will be of interest to:

- academics and researchers working in the area of maternity services, birth and women's health
- those providing maternity care (professional, lay, state-funded, independent, midwifery, medical, nursing, and other groups)
- policy makers with an interest in maternity services
- clinical leaders, managers, and heads of service
- service users
- lecturers at all levels in maternity care
- managers of maternity care education

## **Social Programme**

This programme is separately bookable in advance. Details will be circulated but will include a conference dinner and a social trip.

## **Submission of an Abstract**

An abstract of the intended presentation should be submitted to the e-submission system, that is available at the following url: <https://nbirth2017.exordo.com>

If you do not have access to the electronic system, please contact Liz Roberts through any of the contact points given below, for advice on how to submit manually or by email.

Presentations can take the form of an oral paper, poster, workshop or symposium. Papers will be between 20 and 30 minutes long. A workshop will have a longer time allocation, but should be interactive and no more than 25% of the content should be presentational, and the abstract should specify how the audience will be

involved in the remaining 75% of the time. A symposium will also have a longer allocation, but it should include at least two distinct oral papers on a similar subject and include at least three presenting authors, and the distinct area to be addressed by each author must be made clear in the submission.

Abstracts for standard papers and posters should be a maximum of 350 words, and for workshops or symposium, a maximum of 500 words.

There are four categories of submissions. Please structure them as follows:

**1. Original research (that will be complete by October 2017)**

'Group 1' and title of the presentation/poster

Background, including element of originality

Method

Results

Discussion

Conclusion

Statement on ethical matters related to the study

Statement on funding source for the study

Statement that results will be presented at the conference

Preferred presentation mode (oral, poster, workshop or symposium)

**2. Theories and philosophies**

'Group 2' and title of the presentation

Topic area, including element of originality

Theoretical perspective

Underpinning theories/philosophies (if any)

Argument to be made

Discussion

Conclusion

Preferred presentation mode (oral, poster, workshop or symposium)

**3. Innovations (practice and education), areas for future research, and research in progress seeking collaboration**

'Group 3' and title of the presentation

Topic area, including element of originality

Description of innovation, area for research, or research seeking collaboration

Discussion

Conclusion

Preferred presentation mode (oral, poster, workshop or symposium)

#### **4. Art or drama**

'Group 4' and title of the presentation

Topic area, including element of originality

Description of innovation, area for research, or research seeking collaboration

Discussion

Conclusion

Preferred presentation mode (oral, poster, workshop or symposium)

For more information please contact [healthconferences@uclan.ac.uk](mailto:healthconferences@uclan.ac.uk) or phone on +44 (0)1772 893809 or write to: Liz Roberts, University of Central Lancashire, Conference & Events, Marketing, Chandler Building, Preston, PR1 2HE

**The closing date for receipt of abstracts is 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017** and presenters will be informed of the reviewers decision by the end of June 2017.

**Please note: All presenters and delegates will be required to pay a fee for each day of attendance**

- **1 Day: £135**
  - **2 Days: £270**
  - **3 Days: £400**
- VAT not applicable**

#### **Website**

The Conference Announcement, Call for Papers, booking form and all future information will be available on-line at <http://www.uclan.ac.uk/healthconf>