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30<sup>th</sup> Triennial Congress

# ICM Prague 2014

Midwives: Improving Women's Health Globally

June 1-5, 2014  
Prague, Czech Republic

[www.midwives2014.org](http://www.midwives2014.org)



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# **Midwifery education and practice in England: facing the challenges**

Dr Mari Phillips, University of Huddersfield, UK

Dr Kuldip Bharj, University of Leeds, UK





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## Purpose

**To discuss the contemporary social context and the policy drivers that affect childbirth and contemporary maternity services.**





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**It is the right of every woman to the best possible health care during pregnancy and childbirth.**





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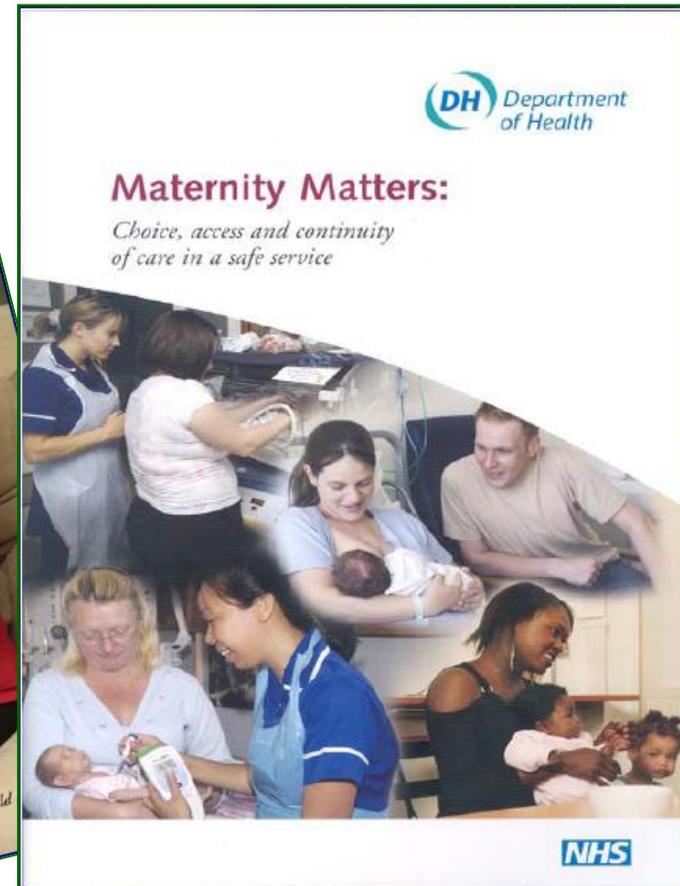
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## Policy Context: England





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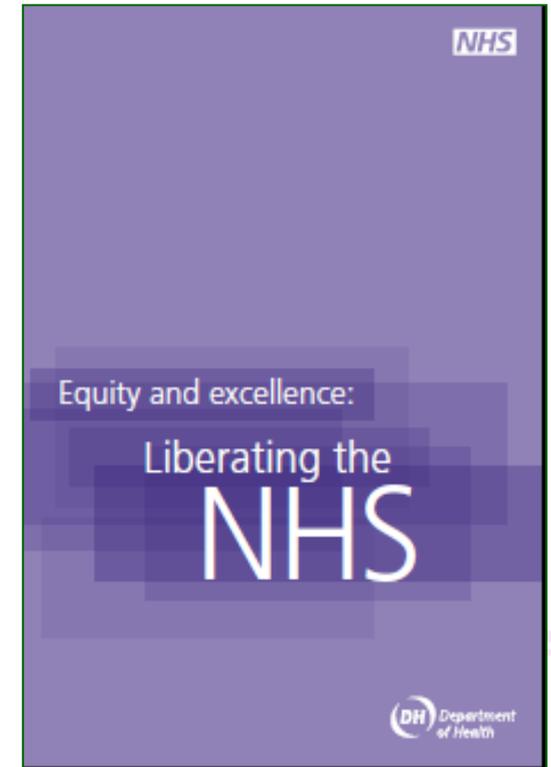
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**We want the principle of  
'shared decision making'  
to become the norm:  
'no decision about me without me'**

**(Department of Health 2010: 13)**





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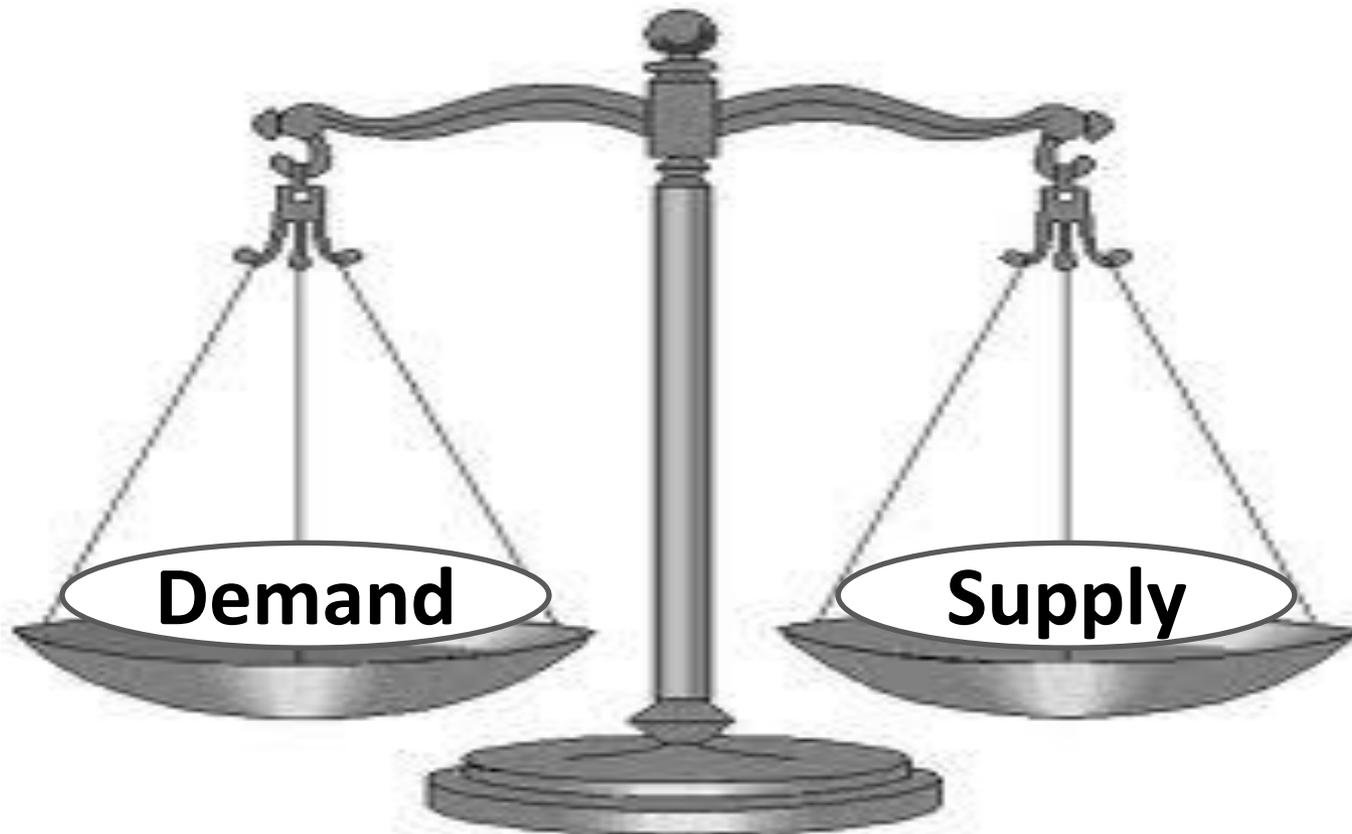
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## Social context





## Facing the challenge: Education

- Preparing students of midwifery for the demands of practice and upon qualification are fit for practice
- Educating sufficient numbers of midwives
- Pressures on placements and mentors
- Curriculum delivery and approaches to teaching and learning
- Pressures on university lecturers
- Sufficient numbers of lecturers





## Implications for the future?

<u>Education</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Maternity services</u>
Availability of and support in placements	Pressures continuing	Continuing reconfiguration
Numbers of lecturers	Increasing complexity of care	Number of midwives
Impact of revalidation	Clinical Leadership	Polarisation of and diversification of services
	Resilience of midwives	



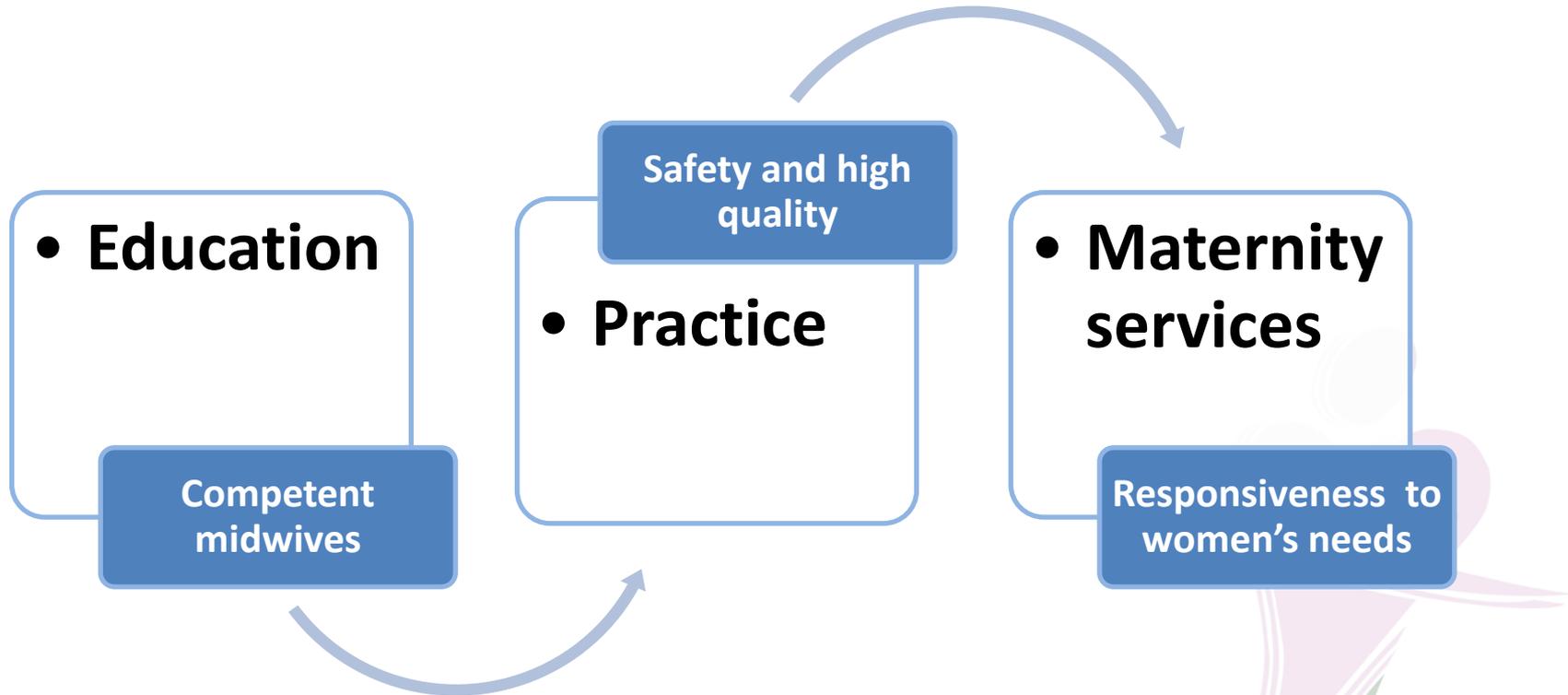
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## Conclusion



- **Women and their families get the world class service**
- **Responsive midwifery education**
- **Partnership working**