

Bereavement care standards

NHS Boards that meet these standards are considered to be providing good bereavement care.

Parent-focused care



Parent-led bereavement care plan: A parent-led approach is taken, providing continuity of care and management of transitions between settings and into any subsequent pregnancies.



Memory opportunities: All bereaved parents are supported to mark their loss and offered opportunities to make memories.



Bereavement space: All units have access to a room where bereavement care can be provided in a suitable and sensitive environment.

Staffing



Access to training: Bereavement care training is provided to all staff who come into contact with bereaved parents, and staff are supported by their Board to access this training.



Leadership: There is a strategic bereavement lead in every Health Board in whose settings a pregnancy or baby loss may occur.



Staff care: Healthcare staff are provided with, and can access, support and resources to deliver high quality bereavement care.

Communication



Assessment and referral: All bereaved parents are informed about and, if requested, referred for emotional support and for specialist mental health support when needed.



Informed choice: All staff listen carefully to bereaved parents, offer them informed choices about their care and the care of their babies, and are guided by their wishes.



Robust signal system: A system is in place to rapidly signal to all healthcare professionals and staff that a parent has experienced a bereavement to enable continuity of care.

