

House Rules for the GPCPC Members WhatsApp Group

Our GPCPC Members WhatsApp Group enables GPCPC members to discuss and share information, to get to know each other and to collaborate.

In the WhatsApp we aim to:

- Share and discuss interests and expertise in the field of perinatal care
- Discuss thoughts on different topics and ideas relating to perinatal care
- Share resources, research studies, opportunities and news
- Support and empower our colleagues
- Work together to contribute to GPCPC consultation responses
- Share details of events and meetings and enable members to connect if they wish.

Please note: The WhatsApp group is not for discussing specific clinical cases. If you need specific support on a clinical case you may ask if a member is willing to discuss a case privately but do not post details in the group.

Etiquette in the GPCPC Members WhatsApp Group- by joining you agree to respect the following:

1. This is a friendly and relatively informal group but please remember we are discussing potentially sensitive topics as professionals. Please treat other group members with respect, as you would your work colleagues, abiding by our shared professional code.
2. We pride ourselves on fostering an environment of openness and inclusion; everyone should be treated with dignity and respect. GPCPC welcomes and values diversity in its membership and we will take a zero-tolerance approach if harassment and/or discrimination occurs.
3. The GPCPC Board Members are Admins for the WhatsApp Group.
4. Please introduce yourself when you join, your current role in General Practice and any interests that you would like to share.
5. All members are welcome to communicate about perinatal care via the group. Please engage in discussion if you can and you have time. If you pose a question, remember that others may have different schedules to you, and ask again if you need to later.
6. Please do not share confidential, sensitive personal or Practice information in the group or any information that may identify patients.
7. Please be mindful that other members of the group may have personal experience of the perinatal topics discussed.
8. Unfortunately, GPCPC cannot offer clinical advice for personal medical/perinatal issues. We encourage members to seek support from their own healthcare providers or local NHS services if needed. A number of organisations and useful resources on perinatal care are linked on the GPCPC website <https://gpcpc.co.uk/useful-resources/>. If emergency support is needed, please dial 999 or go to your nearest A&E.
9. Please do not take photos/screenshots of the group content without obtaining agreement from the poster(s) and the Admins.
10. Ideally posts, documents and links that can be shared will have been announced as such. Please ask if you are not sure and do not share outside the GPCPC group/on social media if you are not certain this has been approved.
11. If a discussion results in disagreement, we encourage those involved to try to work towards a constructive resolution or end the discussion in the group.
12. If you are concerned about a situation on the group, concerned about someone in distress, or someone is in violation of the above agreements, please contact the group Admin(s) as soon as possible to report this. The WhatsApp Group Admins will do their best to resolve minor situations at the time and will escalate any serious concerns about member behaviour to the GPCPC Board in accordance with our Constitution.

It is our intention that the group helps members to feel positive and empowered. Thank you for participating and for respecting the guidelines above to help support this aim.