

Reference:	FOI.17068.25
Subject:	Substance misuse during perinatal period
Date of Request:	10 April 2025

Requested:

1. Does Hywel Dda University Health Board have specialist midwives dedicated to supporting women who use substances during the perinatal period?
If so, please provide any documentation available for these services, such as referral guidelines, service protocols, or links to relevant webpages or online resources.
2. Are there any other dedicated services within the Hywel Dda University Health Board area that provide care to women who use or are in treatment for substances during the perinatal period?
Please provide details on the service, including:
 - a. Who leads the service and which professionals are involved in delivering the care.
 - b. Whether this service is a partnership between:
 - NHS
 - Third sector organisations
 - Local authority
 - Other organisations
 - c. If applicable, whether the service involves a manualised intervention, is an outreach service, or has a specific location.
 - d. Whether the service is provided by a national organisation, or any other relevant details.
Please provide any documentation, guidelines, or protocols related to these services, and/or any relevant URLs.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not have specialist midwives dedicated to supporting women who use substances during the perinatal period.
2. The UHB has a Community Drug and Alcohol Team (CDAT) that works in conjunction with the Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service (DDAS) that provides care to women who use or are in treatment for substances during the perinatal period.

The CDAT service has a lead nurse in each of the three (3) counties in its geographical area, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire. DDAS is an integrated Board led consortium service supported by Kaleidoscope and G4S, supporting service users who have drug and/or alcohol problems themselves, or who are concerned about someone else's drug and/or alcohol use. The UHB also works closely with the dedicated Substance Misuse Social Work Team for each county.

The UHB has a Substance Misuse in Pregnancy Guideline, a copy of which is provided at Attachment 1.

The UHB also has a dedicated webpage providing information on drug use during pregnancy which is available on the UHB's website. A link has been provided below.

[Alcohol and drugs in pregnancy - Hywel Dda University Health Board](#)

Additionally, the UHB has a Perinatal Mental Health (PMH) Service that works with perinatal women who have Mental Health (MH) difficulties, which includes those with substance misuse issues.

The midwifery department works closely with the CDAT, DDAS and PMH teams to ensure mothers are placed on the relevant pathway into the appropriate service.

- a. The manager that oversees CDAT is Matthew Richards, Head of Commissioning, MH&LD, whilst Angela Lodwick, Assistant Service Director of MHL D Clinical Care Group oversees the PMH service. Liz Carroll, Service Director MH&LD Clinical Care Group has overall responsibility for both services.

The professionals involved within the CDAT and PMH service include:

- Mental Health Nurses
- Adult Nurses
- Drug Workers
- Nurse Prescribers
- Consultant Psychiatrist
- Substance Misuse Social Worker

- b. The CDAT and DDAS teams is a partnership between the NHS and the three (3) Local Authorities. The PMH service is an NHS service provided locally across the three (3) counties.
- c. The CDAT and PMH service offer various psychological therapies, none of which specifically address perinatal substance misuse. The CDAT team has a nurse based in each county. The PMH service is based in Carmarthen, providing an Assertive Outreach Service to meet the needs of service users at home, and also has multiple clinics throughout the three (3) counties.
- d. The CDAT and PMH service are provided locally and are not part of a national organisation.

The UHB provides hyperlinks to the related services below:

[DDAS - Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service - Barod](#)

[Substance Misuse, Alcohol and other drugs - Pembrokeshire County Council](#)

[Community drug and alcohol team - Hywel Dda University Health Board](#)

[DAN 247 – Wales Drug and Alcohol Helpline](#)