

Intelligent Intermittent Auscultation e-Learning Programme

Equipping midwives with vital interpretation skills and contributing to safer maternity care



- High-quality, interactive learning to assess competence in intermittent auscultation
- Features engaging, practical exercises with simulated fetal heart sounds
- Accredited by the Royal College of Midwives in the UK

This award-winning programme equips midwives with the knowledge, confidence and skills to undertake intelligent intermittent auscultation (IIA) of the fetal heart during labour.

The e-learning contributes to improving safety for mothers and babies in low-risk birth settings and for ensuring that women have the right form of fetal monitoring.

Using this programme, you learn how to differentiate normal from abnormal heart sounds – enabling prompt escalation of care if you have concerns about the baby's heart rate.

You can access the programme online and study at your own pace – anywhere, at any time.

key features at a glance

- **Written by midwives for midwives**

This e-learning has been written by consultant midwives who are experienced educators. The programme has won multiple awards, including the 2020 Innovation of the Year Award at the *Health Service Journal* Patient Safety Awards.

- **Accredited learning**

The programme has been accredited by the Royal College of Midwives – reflecting its important contribution to CPD and, ultimately, to improving maternity care.

- **Highly engaging content**

Using the programme, you can view questions and audio clips of fetal heart sounds to help improve your interpretation skills.

- **Convenient online access**

You can learn online at your own pace. The programme is designed to be used in a quiet space so you can concentrate on the audio clips.

- **Flexible learning**

The programme can be used for initial training, as a refresher or combined with face-to-face learning. Teaching staff can also incorporate the e-learning in local training programmes.

In partnership with:

A vital skill in all birth settings

Intermittent auscultation is the recommended method of monitoring fetal heart rates during low-risk labours. So, it's vital that midwives understand how to carry out this procedure correctly.

Building knowledge and confidence

The programme includes fetal heart sounds – providing a realistic experience of a 'virtual' birthing environment. You can listen to the audio clips and assess how the baby is coping with the stress of contractions. You can then find out whether you interpreted the sounds correctly.

This is a high-quality, essential learning resource for all midwives who care for women in low-risk settings – ensuring safer practice during labour.

“This... is an innovative and potentially global influencing programme.

... This project makes a real difference to outcomes for mothers and babies while also increasing the confidence of midwives at the same time.”

Judges' commendation from the Health Service Journal Patient Safety Awards

“Absolutely brilliant work, well done! In so many countries, especially low-income countries, where operative birth rates are soaring, intermittent auscultation (and the sight of meconium) is enough to call a c-section. Good intelligent auscultation can save many lives.”

**Dr Kate Lightly
Clinical Research Fellow**

PURCHASE NOW



course content

The course takes around 60 minutes to complete – with both pre- and post-assessment exercises. A basic understanding of fetal physiology is required before taking the programme.

The content focuses on:

- risk assessment of maternal and fetal wellbeing
- enhanced skills in auscultation and interpretation of the fetal heart in low-risk labouring women
- prompt recognition of abnormalities in the fetal heart pattern
- the ability to respond and escalate appropriately.

Learning outcomes:

On completion of this programme, you will be able to:

- describe the risk assessment required to accurately assess maternal and fetal wellbeing at the beginning of labour

- describe how to undertake a thorough assessment of fetal wellbeing during labour using intermittent auscultation
- discuss whether intermittent auscultation is appropriate
- identify the situations which would prompt a move to continuous electronic fetal monitoring
- listen to fetal heart sounds and identify the baseline rate and presence of abnormal features
- evaluate your competency and learning by undertaking the pre- and post-training assessment.

