

## Antenatal questionnaire ANQ

**Note: some response categories were re-ordered for analysis and therefore differ here and in the body of the report**

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Start of Block: Default Question Block

Thank you for taking part in the VIP Study. Please complete this short questionnaire about your expectations for the birth of your baby.

The answers you give us will remain strictly confidential and your name will be removed from the completed questionnaire.

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Q1 Your Name (please fill in below)

\_\_\_\_\_

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Q2 Please could you fill in **today's date** (day/month/year) below

\_\_\_\_\_

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Q3 Please could you fill in the **Date your baby is due** (day/month/year) below

\_\_\_\_\_

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Q4 What is your ethnic group? Choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background

- ☐ White (1)
- ☐ Mixed/multiple ethnic group (2)
- ☐ Asian/Asian British (3)
- ☐ Black/African/Caribbean/Black British (4)
- ☐ Other ethnic group (please write in) (5)

\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Prefer not to say (6)

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Q5 What is your highest level of education?

- ☐ Primary (1)
- ☐ Secondary (High school) (2)
- ☐ College or University (3)
- ☐ Other (please write in) (4) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Prefer not to say (5)

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Q6 Is this your first baby?

- ☐ Yes (1)
- ☐ No (2)

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Q7 Where do you expect your baby to be born?

- ☐ XXX Birth Centre (1)
- ☐ XXX Midwifery Led Unit (2)
- ☐ Other (please write in) (3) \_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION A: INFORMATION

During your pregnancy you will probably have seen various different professionals (midwives, doctors, your GP etc.). We are interested in the information that they have given you about labour.

A1. When talking to those professionals are you able to discuss the things you want to with them fully?

- ☐ Yes, always (1)
  - ☐ Yes, most of the time (2)
  - ☐ Only occasionally (3)
  - ☐ Hardly ever (4)
  - ☐ No, never (5)
- 

A2. When talking to healthcare professionals are you as assertive as you want to be?

- ☐ Yes, I am always as assertive as I want to be (1)
  - ☐ Sometimes I am, but sometimes I am not (2)
  - ☐ No, I am hardly ever as assertive as I want to be (3)
-

A3. How much do you want to know about what might happen during labour?

- ☐ I'd rather not know anything (1)
  - ☐ I just want to know the basics (2)
  - ☐ I want to know most things, but not the things that will upset or worry me (3)
  - ☐ I'm happy to let the staff decide how much I ought to know (4)
  - ☐ I want to know as much as possible (5)
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A4. Some women want to put their wishes about the birth down in writing (e.g. in a birth plan). Which one of these statements is true for you?

- ☐ I have already done this (1)
  - ☐ I am intending to do this soon (2)
  - ☐ I am considering doing this (3)
  - ☐ I have considered doing this but decided not to (4)
  - ☐ I never thought of doing it before (5)
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## SECTION B: WANTS AND EXPECTATIONS

B1. Do you want a birth partner (e.g. partner/spouse, family member, friend) with you at all times throughout your labour?

- ☐ Yes, I want this very much (1)
- ☐ Yes, I would quite like this (2)
- ☐ I don't mind (3)
- ☐ No, I would prefer not to have this (4)
- ☐ No, I definitely do not want this (5)

*Skip To: Q13 If SECTION B: WANTS AND EXPECTATIONS B1. Do you want a birth partner (e.g. partner/spouse, family member...) = Yes, I want this very much*

*Skip To: Q13 If SECTION B: WANTS AND EXPECTATIONS B1. Do you want a birth partner (e.g. partner/spouse, family member...) = Yes, I would quite like this*

*Skip To: Q15 If SECTION B: WANTS AND EXPECTATIONS B1. Do you want a birth partner (e.g. partner/spouse, family me... = I don't mind*

*Skip To: Q15 If SECTION B: WANTS AND EXPECTATIONS B1. Do you want a birth partner (e.g. partner/spouse, family me... = No, I would prefer not to have this*

*Skip To: Q15 If SECTION B: WANTS AND EXPECTATIONS B1. Do you want a birth partner (e.g. partner/spouse, family me... = No, I definitely do not want this*

*Skip To: Q13 If SECTION B: WANTS AND EXPECTATIONS B1. Do you want a birth partner (e.g. partner/spouse, family me... = Yes, I want this very much*

B2. Who would you like this to be?

- ☐ My Partner/spouse (2)
- ☐ Other family member (3)
- ☐ Friend (4)
- ☐ Other e.g. doula (please write in) (1)

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B3. Why particularly do you want a birth partner with you? (Please select **all** that apply to you)

- ☐ To help me keep to my birth plan (1)
- ☐ To support my decisions about how the birth takes place (2)
- ☐ To help me deal with the labour pains (3)
- ☐ To share the experience with me (4)
- ☐ Other (please write in) (5)

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4. Assuming that there are no complications, who do you think **should** make most of the decisions about your labour?

- ☐ The staff should just get on with it, that's their job (1)
- ☐ The staff should make the decisions but I'd like to be kept informed (2)
- ☐ The staff should discuss things with me before reaching a decision (3)
- ☐ The staff should give their assessment of the situation but I should still be the one in control of the decisions (4)
- ☐ I don't mind (5)

B5. Assuming there are no complications, who do you expect **will** make most of the decisions about your labour?

- ☐ I expect that the staff will just get on with it (1)
- ☐ I expect that the staff will make decisions but keep me informed (2)
- ☐ I expect that the staff will discuss things with me before reaching a decision (3)
- ☐ I expect that the staff will give me their assessment of the situation, but I will be the one in control of the decisions (4)
- ☐ I don't have any expectations (5)

B6. In an emergency, who do you think **should** make the decisions?

- ☐ The staff should just get on with it, that's their job (1)
  - ☐ The staff should make the decisions but I'd like to be kept informed (2)
  - ☐ The staff should discuss things with me before reaching a decision (3)
  - ☐ The staff should give their assessment of the situation but I should still be the one in control of the decisions (4)
  - ☐ I don't mind (5)
-

B7. In an emergency, who do you think **will** make the decisions?

- ☐ I expect that the staff will just get on with it (1)
- ☐ I expect that the staff will make the decisions but keep me informed (2)
- ☐ I expect that the staff will discuss things with me before reaching a decision (3)
- ☐ I expect that the staff will give me their assessment of the situation, but that I will be the one in control of the decisions (4)
- ☐ I don't have any expectations (5)

B8. Do you **want** to be in control of what midwives and doctors do to you during your labour?

- ☐ Yes, I want this very much (1)
- ☐ Yes, I would quite like this (2)
- ☐ I don't mind (3)
- ☐ No, I would prefer not to be (4)
- ☐ No, I definitely do not want to be (5)

B9. Do you **expect** to be in control of what midwives and doctors do to you during your labour?

- ☐ Yes, I am sure that I will be (1)
- ☐ Yes, I think I probably will be (2)
- ☐ I don't have any expectations (3)
- ☐ No, I think I probably won't be (4)
- ☐ No, I'm sure I won't be (5)

B10. Do you **want** to be able to move about and change position during labour?

- ☐ Yes, I want that very much (1)
- ☐ Yes, I would quite like to (2)
- ☐ I don't mind (3)
- ☐ No, I would prefer not to (4)
- ☐ No, I definitely do not want to (5)

B11. Do you **expect** to be able to move about and change position during labour?

- ☐ Yes, I am sure that this will happen (1)
- ☐ Yes, I think it probably will happen (2)
- ☐ I don't have any expectations (3)
- ☐ No, I think it probably won't happen (4)
- ☐ No, I'm sure it won't happen (5)

B12. Do you **want** to be able to choose which position to give birth in?

- ☐ Yes, I want this very much (1)
- ☐ Yes, I would quite like this (2)
- ☐ I don't mind (3)
- ☐ No, I would prefer not to (4)
- ☐ No, I definitely do not want to (5)

B13. Do you **expect** to be able to choose which position to give birth in?

- ☐ Yes, I am sure that this will happen (1)
  - ☐ Yes, I think it probably will happen (2)
  - ☐ I don't have any expectations (3)
  - ☐ No, I think it probably won't happen (4)
  - ☐ No, I'm sure it won't happen (5)
-



B14. Do you have any preferences about which position you give birth in?

- ☐ Yes (1)
- ☐ No (2)
- ☐ I don't know (3)

*Skip To: Q27 If B14. Do you have any preferences about which position you give birth in? = I don't know*

*Skip To: Q27 If B14. Do you have any preferences about which position you give birth in? = No*

*Skip To: Q26 If B14. Do you have any preferences about which position you give birth in? = Yes*

B14a What are your preferences?

- ☐ Please write in \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION C: DEALING WITH PAIN

We are interested in how women think about the pain that they might experience in labour.

C1 **Without drugs**, do you expect labour to be:

- ☐ Not at all painful (1)
- ☐ Moderately uncomfortable (2)
- ☐ Quite painful (3)
- ☐ Very painful (4)
- ☐ Unbearably painful (5)
- ☐ I have no idea (6)
- ☐ Other (please say what) (7) \_\_\_\_\_

C2. Are you worried about the thought of pain in labour?

- ☐ No, I'm not worried about it (1)
- ☐ Yes, I'm a bit worried about it (2)
- ☐ Yes, I'm very worried about it (3)

C3. Which of these options would you prefer ideally?

- ☐ The most pain-free labour that drugs can give me (1)
- ☐ The minimum quantity of drugs to keep the pain manageable (2)
- ☐ To put up with quite a lot of pain in order to have a completely drug-free labour (3)
- ☐ Other (please write in) (4) \_\_\_\_\_

C4. We'd like to know how you feel about using the different options available for pain relief in labour.

So, on balance, how do you feel about using each of these methods of pain relief in labour?

[illegible]

C5. Are you thinking of using any of these other methods of pain relief? (Please select **all** which you think you may use)

- ☐ Bath or birthing pool (1)
- ☐ TENS (2)
- ☐ Moving around/changing position (3)
- ☐ Massage (4)
- ☐ Aromatherapy (5)
- ☐ Reflexology (6)
- ☐ Hypno-birthing (8)
- Other (please write in) (7) \_\_\_\_\_

C6. How involved do you **want** the midwives and doctors to be in decisions about the pain relief you might use in labour?

- ☐ I will leave it totally up to the staff to make the right decision (1)
  - ☐ I would like the staff to advise me and I will probably take their advice (2)
  - ☐ I would like the staff to advise me, but I will still make up my own mind even if my decision is different to their advice (3)
  - ☐ I do not want any staff involvement in the decision (4)
  - ☐ Other (please say what) (5) \_\_\_\_\_
-

C7. How involved do you **expect** the midwives and doctors to be in decisions about the pain relief you might use in labour?

- ☐ I expect the decisions to be made entirely by the staff (1)
  - ☐ I expect the staff to advise me and I will probably take their advice (2)
  - ☐ I expect the staff to advise me but I will still make up my own mind even if my decision is different from their advice (3)
  - ☐ I do not expect any staff involvement in the decisions (4)
  - ☐ Other (please write in) (5) \_\_\_\_\_
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## SECTION D: WHAT HAPPENS DURING LABOUR

D1. Please tell us how you feel about the following procedures that may be proposed during labour

[illegible]

### **Forceps or ventouse (vacuum extraction)**

D2. If you were very tired and the staff advised a forceps or ventouse delivery, what do you think you would prefer to do? (Assuming that there was no immediate danger to the baby)

- ☐ I would prefer to accept the suggestion of a forceps or ventouse delivery immediately (1)
  - ☐ I would prefer to wait a bit and see how it goes (2)
  - ☐ I would prefer to avoid a forceps or ventouse delivery if at all possible (3)
  - ☐ I would refuse a forceps or ventouse delivery (4)
  - ☐ I don't know (5)
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### **Caesarean section**

D3. If you were advised during labour that a caesarean section was needed, what would you prefer to do?

- ☐ I would prefer to accept the suggestion of a caesarean section delivery immediately (1)
- ☐ I would prefer to wait a bit and see how it goes (2)
- ☐ I would prefer to avoid a caesarean section (3)
- ☐ I don't know (4)

### **SECTION E: WHAT HAPPENS DURING THIRD STAGE**

The next few questions are about the third stage of labour - the time between the birth of the baby and the complete delivery of the afterbirth (the placenta)

E1. Do you have any particular feelings/wishes about what you do and don't want to happen in the third stage?

- ☐ Yes (1)
  - ☐ No (2)
  - ☐ Not sure, I don't know enough about it (3)
-

E2. Do you want the placenta to come away in its own time or have an injection (oxytocin) to speed it up?

- ☐ I would like the placenta to come away in its own time without an injection (1)
- ☐ I would like to have an injection (oxytocin) to speed it up (2)
- ☐ Not sure, I don't know enough about it (3)
- ☐ I have no preference (4)

E3. Do you have any particular feelings/wishes about when your baby's cord is clamped?

- ☐ Yes, I would like it to be clamped immediately (1)
- ☐ Yes, I would like it to be clamped after it has stopped pulsating (2)
- ☐ Not sure, I don't know enough about it (3)
- ☐ I have no preference (4)

E4. Do you want to hold your baby skin-to-skin immediately after birth?

- ☐ Yes (1)
- ☐ No (2)
- ☐ Not sure, I don't know enough about it (3)
- ☐ I have no preference (4)

E5. Do you want your baby to be given a vitamin K injection?

- ☐ Yes (1)
  - ☐ No, I prefer oral (by mouth) vitamin K (2)
  - ☐ No, I don't want vitamin K at all (3)
  - ☐ Not sure, I don't know enough about it (4)
  - ☐ I have no preference (5)
-

E6. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your plans and wishes for your baby's birth?

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## SECTION F: SOME FINAL QUESTIONS

F1. Has reading this questionnaire made you think about anything you hadn't previously considered?

- ☐ Yes (1)
- ☐ No (2)

*Skip To: Q45 If SECTION F: SOME FINAL QUESTIONS F1. Has reading this questionnaire made you think about anything... = Yes*

*Skip To: Q46 If SECTION F: SOME FINAL QUESTIONS F1. Has reading this questionnaire made you think about anything... = No*

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F1a. Please tell us what this is

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F2. Are you at all worried by anything you have read here?

- ☐ Yes (1)
- ☐ No (2)

If you are at all worried about anything, please do talk to your midwife or doctor

If you have any queries about this questionnaire, please telephone or email:

*(contact information supplied)*

Thank you for all your help. We look forward to receiving this questionnaire and will send you the final one about 6 weeks after your baby is born.

Please say how you would prefer to receive the next questionnaire

- ☐ By email again (to same email address) (1)
- ☐ To your home address (paper copy to complete and post back to us by prepaid envelope) (2)



Please make sure that you have filled in your name and address at the beginning of this questionnaire.

We hope that everything goes well with your labour and birth - have a Happy Birth Day!

Please click the arrow below on the right to submit your responses to us

End of Block: Default Question Block

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