Interview topic guide
Managers and systems-level stakeholders

• Please can you describe your current role and how it relates to antenatal care? What is your job title?

• How has the provision of antenatal care in your service changed during the pandemic?

• What changes to the provision of antenatal care were decided by more senior colleagues, and how were these changes communicated to you?

• What changes to antenatal care were you involved in at a local level, and how did you communicate and implement these changes in your unit/trust?

• How (if at all) were service user groups such as MSLCs/MVP involved in decision making about these changes to antenatal care? Have you had any feedback from service users?

• Do you think any of these changes to remote antenatal care could have been improved?

• Did you create any local guidance? If so, please tell us about it.

• Have you noticed any impact from moving to remote antenatal care, and are these impacts being monitored?

• Do you have examples of what has worked well in remote antenatal care? What will you retain for future practice?

• What aspects of remote antenatal care don’t work well or could be improved?

• How well do you feel that current remote antenatal care addresses the needs of pregnant women?
• Can you comment on how Black, Asian, or other Minority Ethnic groups and/or vulnerable women and families have been impacted?

• What are your thoughts about pregnant women doing some of their measurements at home as part of remote antenatal care?

• How well do you feel that current remote antenatal care addresses the needs of clinicians delivering care?

• What would you include in guidance for healthcare professionals for remote antenatal care?

• Is there anything else you wish to add about remote antenatal care that we have not discussed?
Healthcare Professionals

- Please can you describe your current role and how it relates to antenatal care? What is your job title?
- Please describe how antenatal care has changed during the pandemic in your workplace?
- How was information about changes to antenatal care communicated to you? What information and communication would you have liked? Was there any training?
- Please describe how you have been providing antenatal care during the pandemic (in-person visits, telephone calls, video chats, email). What was covered in these appointments?
- Please tell us about managing remote and in-person appointments, including scheduling and attendance. If there were cases of missed appointments, what was the reason given?
- Can you tell us about keeping paper or electronic records whilst delivering remote antenatal care?
- Have you had concerns about the safety or acceptability of remote antenatal consultations?
- How do you think the quality of antenatal care during the pandemic compares to that beforehand?
- What has worked well in remote antenatal care? Please give examples.
- What will you retain for future practice?
- What aspects of remote antenatal care don’t work well or could be improved? Please give examples.
- How well do you feel that current remote antenatal care addresses the needs of the pregnant women you care for?
- Can you comment on how Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic and/or vulnerable women and families have been impacted?
• Are women able to disclose anything they need to during remote antenatal consultations?

• What are your thoughts about pregnant women doing some of their measurements at home as part of remote antenatal care?

• What would you include in guidance for healthcare professionals for remote antenatal care?

• Is there anything else you wish to add about remote antenatal care that we have not discussed?
Women and their families

Background questions

• How old are you?
• How many times have you been pregnant?
• What is the first part of your postcode?
• What ethnic group do you identify as?
• How did you hear about the study?

Current pregnancy status

• Can you tell me a bit more about your current pregnancy?
• How far along are you OR when did you give birth?
• Have you been pregnant before?
• What was it like for you to receive antenatal care during the pandemic?

Antenatal experience

• What antenatal care have you received so far? Which parts of your care were remote (i.e. provided by phone, email or video call) and what was face-to-face.
  o What was covered in these?
  o Did you feel anything was missing?
    (Chance to ask questions, feeling of being supported, opportunity to discuss worries, particular measurements, ability to physically show your care team something.)
• Has your partner been able to attend any/all of your appointments?
• How have physical checks been carried out?
• How many appointments have you had?
• Did you have any information about these changes ahead of time AND what information did you receive about how remote antenatal care was to be provided?
• How easy is it to get hold of your midwife or antenatal care provider remotely? Any problems encountered?
• Were you able to see/contact the same midwife in multiple appointments?
• If applicable: how does this experience compare to your previous pregnancies?
• Have you missed any appointments? Why?
  (Due to lack of transport, anxieties around being in public/ at a medical centre/ catching coronavirus?)
  o Were they remote or in-person?
• How easy is it to raise concerns remotely? What response have you had?
• What barriers have you come across?
• Can you tell me about your experience of attending antenatal classes?
  o Were they remote or in-person?
• Have you been able to hold a record of your antenatal care? What has that been like?
• Have you felt safe?
• How have remote consultations impacted on your relationship with your antenatal care professionals/providers?

Supplementing antenatal experience

• Have you sought antenatal care and advice elsewhere?
  Searching online for information or reassurance, looking for external remote care, external in-person care (e.g. additional tests or ultrasound scans). To fill in gaps you’ve perceived in your antenatal care.
• Where have you sought support outside of NHS antenatal care?

What could change

• What has worked well and what hasn’t worked so well?
• What parts of your antenatal care do you think should be done in-person??
• What would improve your remote antenatal appointments?
• What would improve your in-person antenatal appointments?

What’s important to you
• Do you feel that current remote antenatal care addresses your needs?
• Have you felt any loneliness or isolation receiving remote care?
• Have you been taking any measurements, such as blood pressure, at home? If yes, please tell me about it. If no, would you feel comfortable to do that?
• How would you like information about remote antenatal care to be communicated to you?
  (E.g. leaflets, webpages, social media.)
• What would you include in remote antenatal care guidance for professionals?

Questions for birth partners/family members
• What has your experience been? Have you been able to ask questions, raise concerns?
• Were you able to be involved in any antenatal classes?

Other issues
• Imagine you’re speaking with someone newly pregnant, receiving antenatal care at your hospital:
  o How would you describe your experience of antenatal care during the pandemic to someone who is newly pregnant?
  o What advice would you give them about receiving remote antenatal care?
• Is there anything else you wish to add about your remote and in-person antenatal care that we have not discussed?