Laura Wallbank Expert Witness Berkshire



Professional Summary

Laura is an accomplished senior midwife with almost three decades of experience, spanning all areas of midwifery practice. She has operated at a senior level since 2009, in roles including delivery suite coordinator, clinical lead midwife and antenatal services manager. Laura has completed extensive training in birth emergency management, human factors, management skills, professional midwifery advocacy and complementary therapies for pregnancy and birth.

Throughout her career, Laura has managed policy changes, organisational guideline implementation and changes to service provision. Laura manages a range of professional regulation and public protection activities, including completing root cause analysis investigations and serving as a registrant panel member at the Conduct and Competence Committee at the Nursing & Midwifery Council.

Laura works as an Expert Witness for Harrison Associates, utilising her wealth of clinical expertise to provide impartial and insightful reports across a wide range of cases. This includes initial letters of opinion and liability reports. She is fully trained in the Civil Procedure Rules including relevant revisions as they arise and maintains continuous professional development in all of her roles.

Specialisms

- Midwifery
- Professional Accountability
- Birth Emergency
 Management
- Supervision
- Root Cause Analysis
- Reviews & Investigations
- Complementary Therapies
- Home Birth
- Postnatal Care

Career History

Mama's Choice Owner

• Provide evidence-based complimentary therapies to support with relaxation and common pregnancy ailments.

Independent Consultant Expectancy Ltd

- Manage the licenced consultant scheme, providing business support to midwives in private practice.
- Support curriculum and guideline development for evidence-based courses for midwives in complementary therapies with a focus on safety and professional accountability.

Qualifications

- Registered Midwife
- RGN lapsed registration

2017 - Present

2019 - Present

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Career History Continued

Registrant Panel Member

Nursing & Midwifery Council (Conduct & Competence Committee) 2017 - Present

Sat on a wide variety of hearings, involving analysis of large volumes of evidence, legal submissions and decision-making in adherence with relevant policies.

Senior Midwife

West Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

- Held clinical leadership responsibility for the maternity unit and cared for women in high and low risk settings.
- Supported, mentored and supervised junior and student midwives. •

Supervisor of Midwifes West Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

- Fulfilled the Contact Supervisor role to the local supervising authority and led a team of 21 Supervisors of Midwives
- This included responsibility for conducting reviews and supervisory investigations and provided Laura with extensive experience analysing large volumes of data, producing investigation reports, providing recommendations on practice and planning development programmes.

Antenatal Service Manager

West Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

- Took financial, managerial and clinical responsibility for the Antenatal Clinic and Day Assessment Unit.
- Implemented robust systems of working to improve outcomes for women and improve efficiency.
- Involved in improving service provision through the audit programme including the • development of a mental health care pathway, a postnatal infection review and in the development of new maternity notes modules.

Memberships	Ages Covered	
Midwife West Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust		1993 - 2009
Delivery Suite Coordinator West Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust		2009 - 2010
Clinical Lead Midwife West Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust		2010 - 2012

Nursing & Midwifery Council

- Royal College of Midwives
- Royal College of Nursing
- Federation of Antenatal Educators

Ages Covered

- Adults
- Antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal
- Neonatal period

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2017 - 2019

2014 - 2017

2012 - 2014