**Background:** Effective partnership working between NHS Trusts and universities is a fundamental aspect of any pre-registration midwifery education programme\(^1\). Over the course of the programme, students develop their knowledge and skills through a combination of theory and experience in clinical practice, however, students have raised concerns over their confidence in performing some clinical skills, or a desire to strengthen their knowledge in specific areas. Research has shown that when student midwives are provided with opportunities to practice clinical skills in a safe simulated environment, it contributes to greater confidence\(^2\).

**Our aims:**
- To reduce anxiety and increase confidence of student midwives in performing clinical skills
- To complement and build on current theoretical and practical learning
- Support student development and ease the transition from student to midwife

**Example sessions:**
- IV cannulation
- Neonatal resuscitation
- CTG interpretation
- Perineal suturing
- Blood transfusion
- HIV
- Drug administration
- Use of pumps

**Evaluation:**
- Attendance: varies, average 6-8 students
- Objectives of sessions: 100% satisfaction
- Length of session: 99% satisfaction
- Overall: Excellent 100%

**Student feedback:**
High risk care and escalation: “Excellent session, nice to work in small groups as questions answered easier”
“These sessions must continue – totally invaluable”
Anaesthetist’s role: “A fabulous session, building knowledge and evidence. Session should be compulsory for students!”
“Very informative talk on management of women who are HIV positive who have babies. Key information I wasn’t aware of.”

This project is now being opened up to medical students, nursing associates and midwifery students from other clinical sites linked to the university. It continues to be structured around learning needs identified by the students across year groups.

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**References:**

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