

# Perinatal Loss in Practice: What Hospital Staff Need to Know

## Course Description

Working with mothers, fathers and their families means you will accompany your patients through some of the greatest joys, and most tragic of losses.

The loss of a baby through Miscarriage, Stillbirth, Neonatal Death or following the diagnosis of an abnormality where the parents decide to end their pregnancy, is recognised as a traumatic event in this cohort of parents. As a health professional caring for these families, it is important you are up to date with best practice bereavement care guidelines and recommendations with regards to bereavement care.

This course is designed to provide you with the relevant information and skills to build your confidence in working with and supporting families following a perinatal loss.

This course is based on best practice, evidence-based research into perinatal loss specifically and what 'good' perinatal bereavement care is.

The course covers aspects of perinatal grief and how it is different, different types of losses including legal requirements, as well as providing practical advice on how to best care for families in the hospital setting – from diagnosis through to the care during their labour & birth or Cesarean Section, to discharge home. Self Care is also discussed in a separate module.

Eliza Strauss, Bereavement Midwife, shares over 30 years of clinical experience working as a Nurse and Birth Suite Midwife, closely supporting parents following the loss of a pregnancy or after the death of a baby. In 2018, Eliza won the ACM (Australian College of Midwives) 'Excellence in Bereavement Care' award in recognition of the respectful and supportive care she provides to bereaved families and for setting up a unique bereavement support program in her workplace.

Upon successful completion of short quizzes at the end of each module, you will be provided with a certificate of completion for 5.5 hours of professional development.

You will also be able to access and print out useful links, factsheets and flowcharts to assist you in caring for these families.