Working with Vulnerable Migrant Women - Training for midwives

Course Overview
Migrant women come to the UK using a range of migration routes and, consequently, have different types of immigration status. Many are not familiar with the system here and may not speak English well. In addition, they may be vulnerable for a variety of complex reasons beyond their control (eg: domestic violence, trafficking and exploitation, uncertainty of employment, etc). Their immigration status will determine their rights and entitlements but the system is complicated and changes frequently. This may lead to, on the one hand, migrant women not accessing healthcare and other services resulting in poor health outcomes and, on the other, midwives and other health practitioners not being able to offer most effective support. This course will explore the interaction of the rights and entitlements and immigration status of migrant women and raise awareness about their vulnerabilities.

Aim
This course aims to provide an overview of different types of immigration status and rights and entitlements of migrant women, explore their vulnerabilities and identify strategies for supporting them.

Learning outcomes
After attending this one-day training course and using the resource materials, the participants will be able to:
- Distinguish between different types of immigration status (migrant workers, EU, trafficked women, spouse visa, irregular, No Recourse to Public Funds, asylum seekers, refugees, etc)
- Explain the rights and entitlements to healthcare, welfare benefits, housing and other services for different groups
- Demonstrate an awareness of the vulnerabilities of migrant women
- Explain barriers to healthcare and other services (including language barrier and cultural differences) and ways of overcoming them
- Identify how and where to make most appropriate referral and signpost
- Specify strategies for providing most effective support for different groups

*The course will be participatory and interactive with various activities (small group work, case studies, quizzes, etc) used throughout the day.*
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Maternity Action and GLA

Programme

9.15-9.30  Registration
9.30-9.50  Welcome and introduction
9.50-11.30 Vulnerable migrant women: an introduction
Terminology: clarifying definitions of different migration categories
Migration routes into the UK
11.30-11.45 Break
11.45-1.00 Rights and entitlements of different migration groups
  Access to health and maternity care
  Access to other services (housing, welfare benefits, employment, etc)
1.00-1.45 Lunch
1.45-3.00 Barriers to accessing services and ways of overcoming them
  How can we support vulnerable migrant women? (1)
  Discussing women’s stories through case studies
3.00-3.15 Break
3.15-4.20 How can we support vulnerable migrant women? (2)
  Identifying ways of making appropriate referrals and signposting
  Using interpreters effectively
4.20-4.30 Evaluation and close