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### APPENDIX A



### UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE

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## INFORMATION SHEET

Project Title: Exploring the lived experiences of midwives in managing patients' perinatal loss at a level two maternity hospital in the Western Cape, South Africa

What is this study about?

This is a research project being conducted by myself, Melissa Williamson, at the University of the Western Cape (Student number 2445955). I am inviting you to participate in this research project because you as a midwife may have nursed patients who have had such an experience as above. The purpose of this study is to explore and describe the lived experiences of midwives' in the management of patients who experienced perinatal loss in order to provide improved understanding to policy makers, midwifery educators and managers on how midwives deal with the phenomenon.

Permission for the study has been granted by the Senate Higher Degrees committee and Senate and Research Grants and Study leave Committee.

What will I be asked to do if I agree to participate?

You will be asked to participate in an in depth interview and talk about your experiences when managing patients who have had a perinatal loss. The study will be conducted at Mowbray Maternity hospital, in a private room allocated for the interviews. The interview will take about 30-45 minutes depending on the participants and their availability.

Would my participation in this study be kept confidential?

Your personal information will be kept confidential. To help protect your confidentiality, all transcripts will be kept in a locked drawer and only the researcher will have the key at all times. Your name will not be included on the transcripts and other collected data; a code will be placed on the transcript, and only the researcher will be able to link the transcript to the participant. The results of the study will not contain any reference of you as a participant in this research project; your identity will be protected to the maximum extent possible.

What are the risks of this research?

There are no known risks associated with participating in this research study. However, if you are afraid that talking about your experiences may come to the attention of higher authority, then you can rest assured that all information imparted to me will be held in confidence and will not be reported to management.

What are the benefits of this research?

There are no direct benefits to you currently, but the information gathered may assist future midwives to improve their management of patients who have had a perinatal loss and to submit to management a number of recommendations to assist midwives to manage their patients optimally.

Do I have to be in this research and may I stop participating at any time? Your participation in this research is completely voluntary, so you may choose not to take part at all. If you do decide to participate in this research study, you may withdraw at any time without any negative consequences to yourself. If you decide not to participate in this study or if you stop participating at any time in the future, you will not be penalized for this.

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Is any assistance available if I am negatively affected by participating in this study?

If sharing your experiences causes any negative feelings, you may be referred to the available counselling services at the institution.

What if I have questions?

This research is being conducted by, Melissa Williamson from the University of the Western Cape. If you have any questions about the research study itself, please contact me at: Tel: 0720396575, or email: melissawilliamson02@gmail.com

Should you have any questions regarding this study and your rights as a research participant, or if you wish to report any problems you have experienced related to the study, please contact either:

The Acting Head:

Prof K Jooste

School of Nursing

University of the Western Cape

Private Bag X17

Bellville 7535

Tel: 021 959 2274 Email: kjooste@uwc.ac.za

This research has been approved by the University of the Western Cape's

Senate Higher Degrees and Research Ethics Committee.

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# **APPENDIX F**

2 June 2016

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that GAVA KASSIEM edited the thesis entitled Exploring Midwifes' Experiences of Managing Patients' Perinatal Loss at a Maternity Hospital in the Western Cape, South Africa by Melissa Williamson.

The onus is however on the author to make the changes suggested and to attend to queries. The author requested that no formatting and reference checking be done.

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Yours sincered

Gava Kassiem

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