

## **DML Excellence Awards 2016 Report**

**Project No:** 42 – Midwife Led Obstetric Triage : Reducing Waiting Time, Improving Quality and Safety in Maternity Emergency Department

**Address:** Holles Street, Dublin 2.

**Location:** Ireland East Hospital s Group

### **Brief Description (up to 200 words)**

Attendances in emergency department are approximately 15,000 a year with monthly attendances averaging around 1400 patients. This also includes the early pregnancy complications.

High attendances to emergency department, staff shortage, regular rotation of medical staff and junior staff lacking ultrasound, prescribing, physical examination skills resulted in long waiting times, delayed diagnosis leading to increased morbidity, increased unnecessary admissions, increased unnecessary investigations and decreased patient satisfaction.

Due to increasing activity levels within the unit, care of maternity patients presenting to emergency department for evaluation was compounded, leading to delayed assesment of fetal and maternal well being.

### **Main goal(s) and aims of the Project**

Aims

To reduce waiting time in maternity emergency department.

Improve safety and quality of care provided to pregnant women in emergency room setting.

### **Outline of Approach – main steps taken to implement the Project**

Comprehensive history taking, Advanced Physical examination, medicinal Prescribing, Ultrasound scanning, counselling, Breast feeding support, Ongoing teaching of junior doctors and staff midwives were/are provided in the maternity emergency setting.