

Alice Twigg:

So the role of the midwife includes everything from ideally from pre-conception care right up until up to 28 days after the baby is born.

Helen Leslie-Smith:

So you can either be in the community or the hospital, there's lots of different roles within that, so you are doing health promotion, clinical decision making, working with a multi-disciplinary team.

Manjit Roseghini:

As soon as you are qualified what lots of midwives do they consolidate their training, so they may choose to work in the hospital, they may choose to work in the community, and then once they have consolidated their training, which could be after a year, they may specialise in their chosen field.

Declan Symington:

What I do is I work in anti-natal education, so I teach women about labour and birth and how to breast feed their baby and how to look after their baby as well.

Helen Leslie-Smith:

I think one of the misconceptions is that midwifery is very much focussed on the baby. Actually in reality we see the woman through the nine months of pregnancy, we deliver her, obviously we then meet the baby and post-natally we are caring for the baby but really we are supporting the mother into the transition from being without a baby to having a baby which is quite a big transition obviously.

Manjit Roseghini:

Another misconception is very much that the doctors do the deliveries which is not correct. We are very very fortunate in the United Kingdom where midwives are the lead for normality.

Helen Leslie-Smith:

There's many different hours you can work to suit your needs, so you can work in the day, in the night, at weekends, you can work long shifts, short shifts, whatever to suit your needs really. If you have children they can take that into account for child care purposes.

Declan Symington:

There is lots of free training available as well. A majority of hospitals will want you to do the mentorship course first of all, but then once you have done the mentorship course, then there is plenty of training for different areas of midwifery that you want to go into.

Jillian Martin:

It is emotionally hard work but you do reap the benefits, you are constantly surprised and inspired by women on a daily basis.

Alice Twigg:

If you are thinking of a career as a midwife, I would say make sure you have a good sense of humour and a very strong stomach, those two things will be invaluable. I think you would struggle to find a job with a similar level of reward and satisfaction.

Manjit Roseghini:

No one day is the same; there is so much variety and so much choice.

Helen Leslie-Smith:

So if I was to describe my role in one word it would be interesting

Alice Twigg:

Satisfying

Manjit Roseghini:

Fabulous

Declan Symington:

Helping