Pregnancy care: is it “woman-centred”?

ABSTRACT

Objectives:

- to contribute to the process of analysis and discussion of reorganisation of woman-centred care during pregnancy through research, analysis and discussion of scientific literature and real experiences;
- research of real tools that can be used by healthcare professionals, in particular by midwives, to put in practice a customised care centred on women needs.

Methods:

- research and analysis of national and international scientific literature on the topics of person centred health care and specifically of women during pregnancy;
- research of models, projects, practical tools and implementation of woman-centred maternity services specifically during pregnancy;
- research and analysis of resources available in the social and health systems to provide woman-centred care.

Conclusions:

From the review of the scientific literature and the lived personal experiences, emerges that health systems and health professionals, in particular Midwives, have understood the importance of people centrality in providing care. However the shift from theoretical models based on people-centred care to an active offer of woman-centred services, in particular during childbirth, requires real tools and actions put in practice by maternity services and health professionals.