

Key Points

- Student midwives felt unprepared communicating with women who had experienced perinatal loss
- Contact with bereaved families and placement with the bereavement midwife were seen as key learning opportunities
- Dealing with bereavement and loss was seen as important “rite of passage” in the transition to becoming a midwife
- Self-reflection on clinical practice was identified by students as an important coping strategy in caring for bereaved families