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| **ISA ISPID  Abstract Submission  Nº: 210**   |  | | --- | | Topics: **Implementing best practices** | | Type: **Oral** | | ***The silent birth* – a film to help parents prepare for stillbirth** | | **Kalstad, Trine Giving**1; **Mathiesen, Trond**1; **Schrader, Line**1 *1 - Norwegian SIDS and Stillbirth Society.* | | **Introduction** We still experience variation in parental care and follow up after stillbirth from health personnel. In order to contribute to better and more similar care all over Norway, LUB has made a film for parents who just have been told their child is dead. This film, which is inspired by Sherokee Ilse's film "I hardly knew you…" provides all the information parents need to make the right choices in the first hours and days for saying good bye to their dead child. **Objectives:**  To communicate parents and siblings experiences and needs before, during and after the stillbirth by introducing the film "The silent birth" at the maternity wards in Norway. This film is meant as a tool for health personnel.  **Material and Methods** The 20 minutes film is made in cooperation with professionals and volunteers.Based on research findings and experiences LUB made a film script. Three main topics are addressed; 1) How to prepare for the stillbirth (what happens next, going home first or not, telling family and friends, what to expect when your baby is born and what will the midwife do, how you might feel, discuss autopsy), 2) Creating memories (seeing and holding the baby when still warm, taking the baby home, photographs, including siblings, family and friends in saying good bye), and 3) Leaving the hospital, going home (grief and grieving, bereavement support, remembrance). The information in the film is given by a midwife and a bereaved couple. The parents share their story and explaine their choices. Together with the midwife they illustrate what is important to consider when making decisions. This invites to personal reflection even though there are clear guidance in how to use the short, but precious time with your still born baby. A maternity ward and the bereaved parents’ home are the locations for the film. To promote the film, a midwife from LUB has travelled all over Norway visiting 25 hospitals and lectured about stillbirth. After showing the movie a discussion about how to use this film has followed. Also local volunteers from LUB have attended most of the meetings telling about their local peer support work for bereaved families. To reach out to immigrants not speaking Norwegian, the movie is subtitled in English. Parts of the film will be showed at the conference.  **Results** A movie like this is a new way of communicating parental needs in a vulnerable situation. Nevertheless, the response from the health personnel is overwhelming. "The parents in the movie communicate important messages in a very trustworthy way. This will help us in our dialog with parents", a midwife says. Also, LUB as a peer support organization has become more visible due to volunteers from LUB attending the meetings at the hospitals. This will hopefully make LUB more accessible to bereaved families.  **Conclusions** The film and the meetings at the maternity wards have contributed to increased knowledge and awareness about the needs of parents and siblings experiencing stillbirth. By introducing this film, we are able to offer information from a bereaved parent to another newly bereaved parent (peer support) already at the hospital. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **CONTACT** | | | Name: | **Trine Giving** | | Lastname: | **Kalstad** | | E-mail: | **trine@lub.no** | | Country: | **Norway** | | Institution | **Norwegian SIDS and Stillbirth Society** | | Cellphone: | **004795106088** | | City: | **Oslo** | |