

Draft of the Conference Program

October 23 and 24, 2026

The program will take place in 3 rooms. A large conference room (approx. 100 people) and 2 smaller seminar rooms (40 and 25 people).

Simultaneous interpretation (Czech English) will be provided in the large room, consecutive interpretation in the small rooms, if necessary.

The exact schedule of the program will be created when the abstracts are delivered.

Friday, October 23, 2026

Introduction

9.00 - 9.30 Welcome and introductory words. Thanks to sponsors, fellows and assistants.

9.30 - 11.00 Presentations recalling key milestones in the development of midwifery care in the Czech Republic.

Věra Vránová – Midwifery in the 60s -80s. 20th century

Alena Dudová – Institute for Care of Mother and Child yesterday and today

Mary Zwart, Netherlands – I am happy to help - The first group trip to explore midwifery care in the Netherlands

Irena Raisnerová – Memories of the maternity hospital in Vrchlabí

Zuzana Štromerová – Active Birth Center

Miloslava Kameníková – Brno Maternity hospitals

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break

Lectures Friday

11.30 – 13.00

Zuzana Štromerová – Maternity hospital from theory to practice

Lenka Laubrová Žirovnická – Association for maternity hospitals and centers

Silke Schmidt, Germany – Community midwife in Germany, agreed + we expect more presentations from German Pas

MUDr. Cyril Matějka – pediatrician – communication with parents, video instructional films in discussion – still in negotiation

Catherine Trolsvik, Norway – Norway

Dianne Garland, Great Britain – Safe Water Birth – invitation to seminar

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch

14.30 – 16.00 Presentations – call for abstract open

16.00 – 16.30 Break

Panel discussion

16.30 – 18.00

Introduction: Excerpt from the film **GREATS'S BIRTH**

Topic: “Safety”

Questions for the panel discussion:

And what does the concept of “safety” in maternal care include? Safety for whom? The midwife? The mother? The child? Parents, healthcare providers...? To what extent is the concept of “safety in childbirth” consistent with the right of the woman in labour to give birth according to her choice and in the place of her own choosing? How strong should the advice of the midwife/doctor be? Is the education of midwives of such high quality that after graduating from school they can offer safe care to women? And can they themselves feel safe doing so? Does something need to be changed? What? What are the hidden risks that can endanger individual members of the birth team?

Greta´s Birth – screening of the entire film (96 min.)

Seminars

10.00 – 16.00

Barbara Kosfeld, Germany – Think and Combine: The Art of Supporting Natural Birth is Coming

10.00 – 16.00

Dianne Garland, Great Britain – Safe Water Birth in the 21st Century

Saturday 24.10.2026

9.00 – 9.30 Reflections from the previous day

Lectures

9.30 – 11.00

Call for abstracts open

ARM – UK – in discussion

Petra Dušková – Craniosacral Therapy (exact title to be specified)

11.00 – 11.30 Break

Lectures

Open for applications

11.30 – 13.00

13.00 – 14.00 – Lunch

Panel discussion

14.00 – 15.00

Quality education – an advantage and security for the future

Questions for the discussion

Is the education of midwives in the Czech Republic sufficient? Is it really comparable to other European countries? What can and cannot midwives do immediately after graduation? How do health systems in different European countries ensure sufficient and high-quality practical training of midwives in the domestic environment? Fear – a binding enemy. Why does basic (even bachelor's) education not provide sufficient education, for example, in lactation counselling or care provided in a community environment, and is it necessary for midwives to supplement these basic areas of work with specialized (financially demanding) courses?

Seminars

Titles of seminars to be specified

10.00 – 16.00

Martina Suchardová - Midwife in community and postpartum care

Networking – seminar on cooperation of midwives from different countries

EXTRA seminar

25.10.2026

The organization **Breech Without Borders**, USA – offered to organize a one-day seminar on CP seminar following the conference. The organizer is Breech Without Borders (all administration and fees are covered by them).

The seminar will be conducted in English.

The Birth House Stork offered to advertise the seminar together with the conference in order to determine preliminary interest of potential participants.

More info: www.pdcap.cz