

Supplementary File 5. Hypothetical example of the different types of data derived from a cluster of various types of studies which broadly focus on the same intervention.											
Intervention	Community-based midwifery led antenatal care with additional social and welfare support in low-middle income countries										
Methodology	RCT 1	RCT 2	RCT 3	Controlled before-after study	Process Evaluation (RCT 2)	Sibling qualitative study (RCT1)	Qualitative study unrelated to a trial	Qualitative study unrelated to a trial	Mixed-method study unrelated to trial	Questionnaire survey unrelated to trial	Mixed-method Grey literature case study of downstream intervention implementation
A priori theory	Programme theory and logic model	Programme theory	Brief description of how intervention is intended to work	Hypothesis	Programme theory and logic model Implementation theory (normalisation process theory)	Social behaviour change theory (theory of planned behaviour)	None	Social behaviour change theory -	Conceptual framework	None	None
Description of intervention mapped against Tidier Framework ₁	Brief	Detailed	Brief	Brief	Detailed	Brief	Brief	Very brief	Very brief	Very brief	Detailed
Question addressed	Is the intervention effective?	Is the intervention effective?	Is the intervention effective?	Is the intervention effective?	What happened when implemented?	What were the experiences and motivations of intervention recipients and service providers?	How do women value and experience befriending and food tokens?	What happens to the additional welfare support received by pregnant women?	How satisfied were patients with the service, what did they value most, how did they rank the various elements and how did the service help them?	What are the patient attitudes to the intervention and its acceptability?	How we implemented the intervention in our setting and what worked?
Primary outcome/phenomena of interest	Health of mother and baby	Health of mother and baby	Health of mother and baby	Health of mother and baby	Intervention implementation and impact of the intervention on the setting	Women's experiences and perceptions of the intervention	How do women conceptualise a safe birth?	How and why do women engage with the intervention (or not)?	Client satisfaction	Client attitudes	Organisational level evaluation of implementation
Context and participant characteristics	Brief 1,046 women randomised in 3 groups Bangladesh 2001	Detailed 17,000 women cluster randomised in 5 centres India 2005	Brief 180 women randomised by 2 centres Uganda 2009	Brief 80 women in each group Chile 2015	Detailed 17,000 women in trial and 5 centres. Sample of 50 women and 10 professionals in focus groups. Observations over 1 year in each centre. India 2005	Brief 100 women (sample) Professionals from each centre Bangladesh 2001	Brief 15 women Thailand 2009	Brief 6 months of observation and micro interviews in 1 centre Afghanistan 2007	Moderately detailed 1070 women – questionnaires 40 women interviews Cambodia 2010	Brief 248 women in 1 centre Ethiopia 2013	Detailed 280 women over 6 months Guatemala 2016
Type of data	Quantitative Direction of effect on	Quantitative Absolute effect on	Quantitative Absolute effect on	Quantitative Relative difference	Qualitative Thematic analysis of focus groups	Qualitative Thematic analysis of	Qualitative	Qualitative Ethnography	Mixed-method Quantitative Descriptive	Quantitative Descriptive	Quantitative costs and descriptive statistics showing

	primary outcome	primary outcome	primary outcome	on primary outcome	and non participant observations. Thick description	interviews with patients and professionals Thick description	Framework thematic analysis Thin description	Pictures, narrative themes and graphics. Thick description	statistics and qualitative narrative themes	statistics and explanation	patient flow data and outcomes using non validated measures. Qualitative service reorganisation diagrams and description, staff and client interviews to describe what happened
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1. Hoffman T, Glasziou P, Boutron I, Milne R, Perera R, Moher D, et al. Better reporting of interventions: template for intervention description and replication (TIDieR) checklist and guide. Br Med J. 2014;2014;348:g1687.