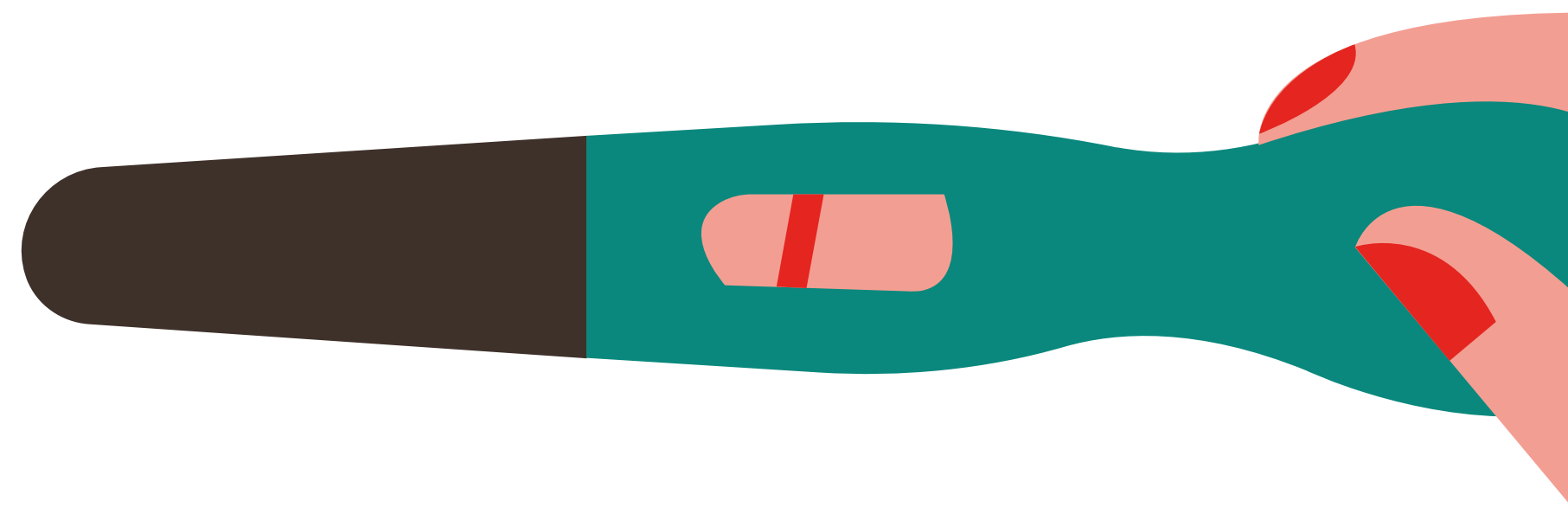




WOMEN'S EXPERIENCES OF CARE DURING A THREATENED MISCARRIAGE: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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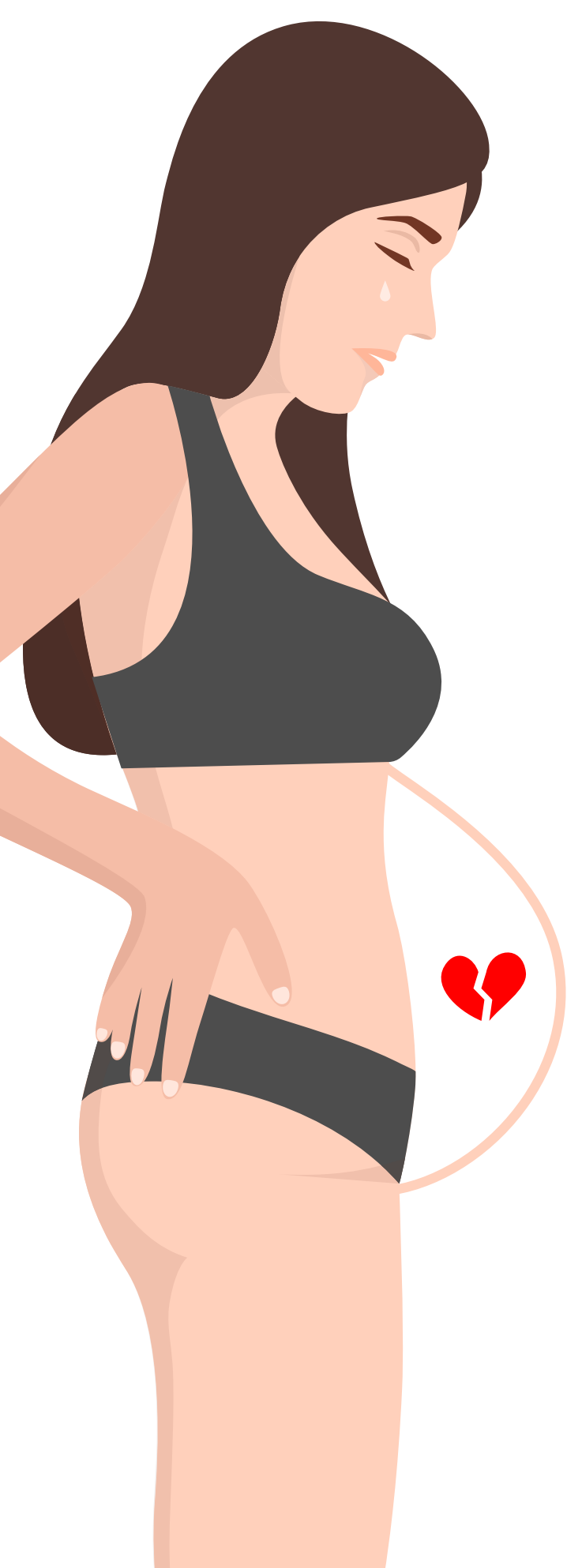


INTRODUCTION

- Threatened miscarriage can be defined as vaginal bleeding in the presence of a viable pregnancy up to 23 weeks and 6 days of gestation.
- It is the most common complication in early pregnancy and can be associated with increased risks of obstetric complications and complete miscarriage.
- Qualitative research is lacking in the experiences of women experiencing a threatened miscarriage, where their prognosis is often uncertain.

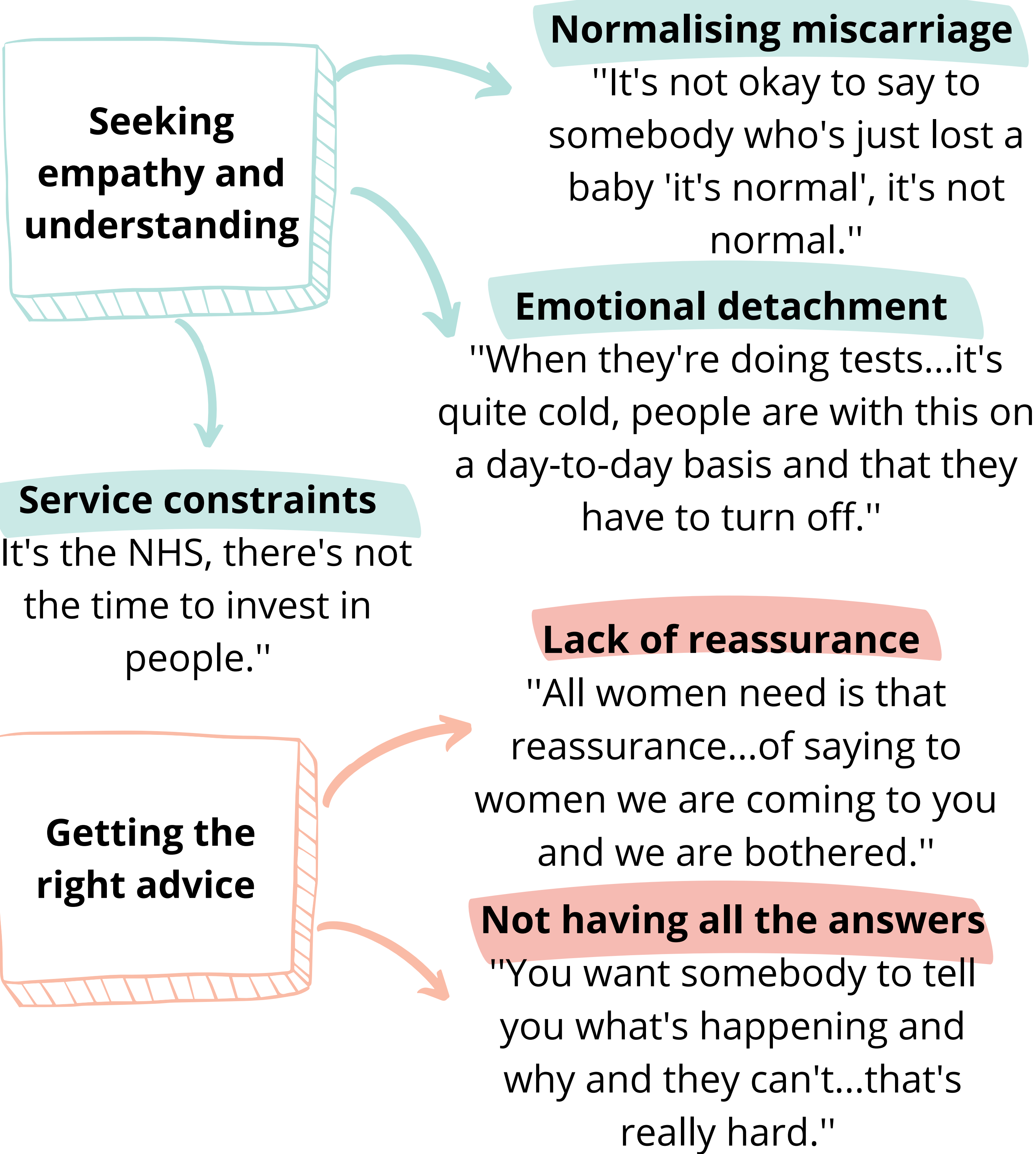
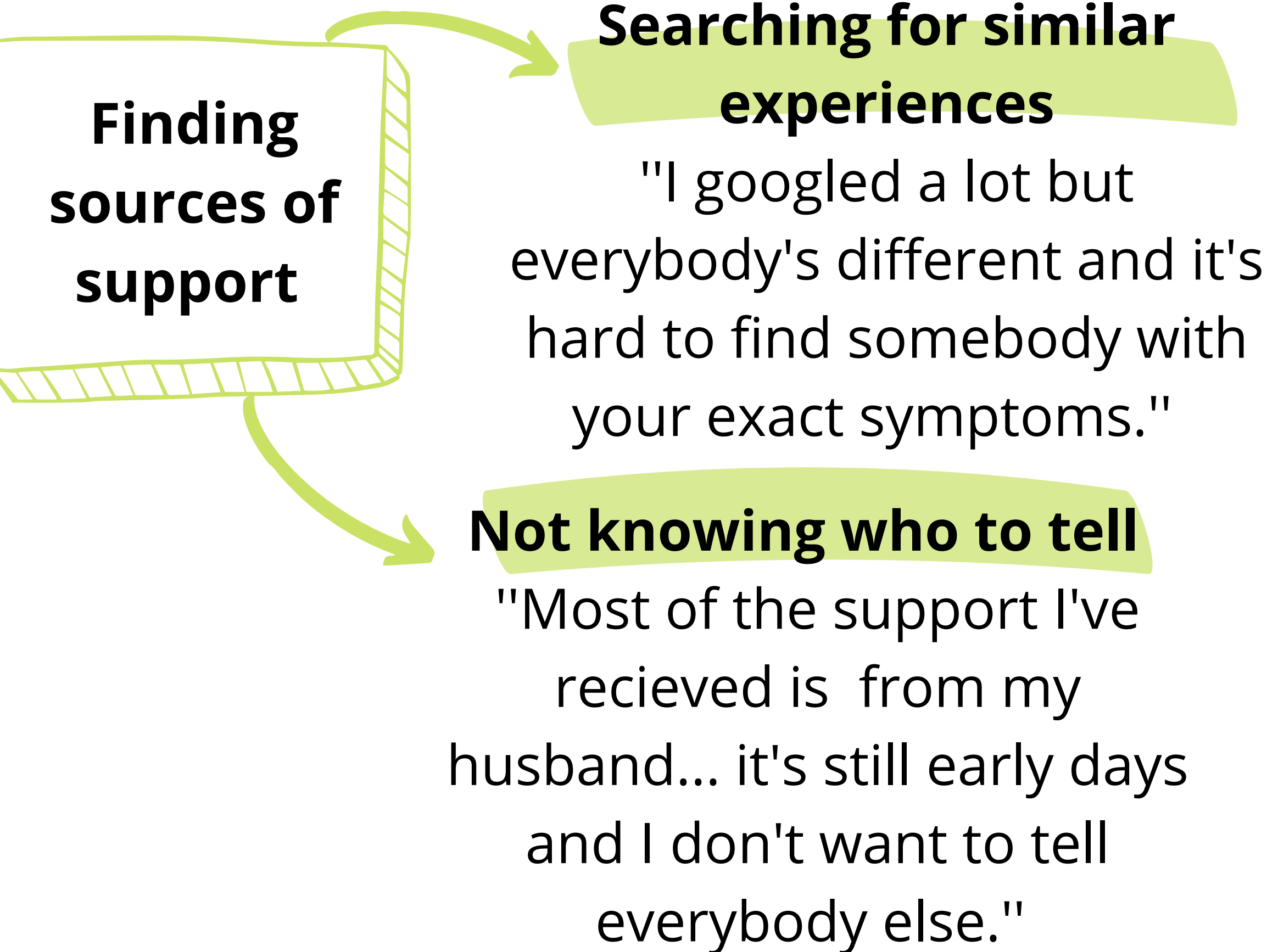
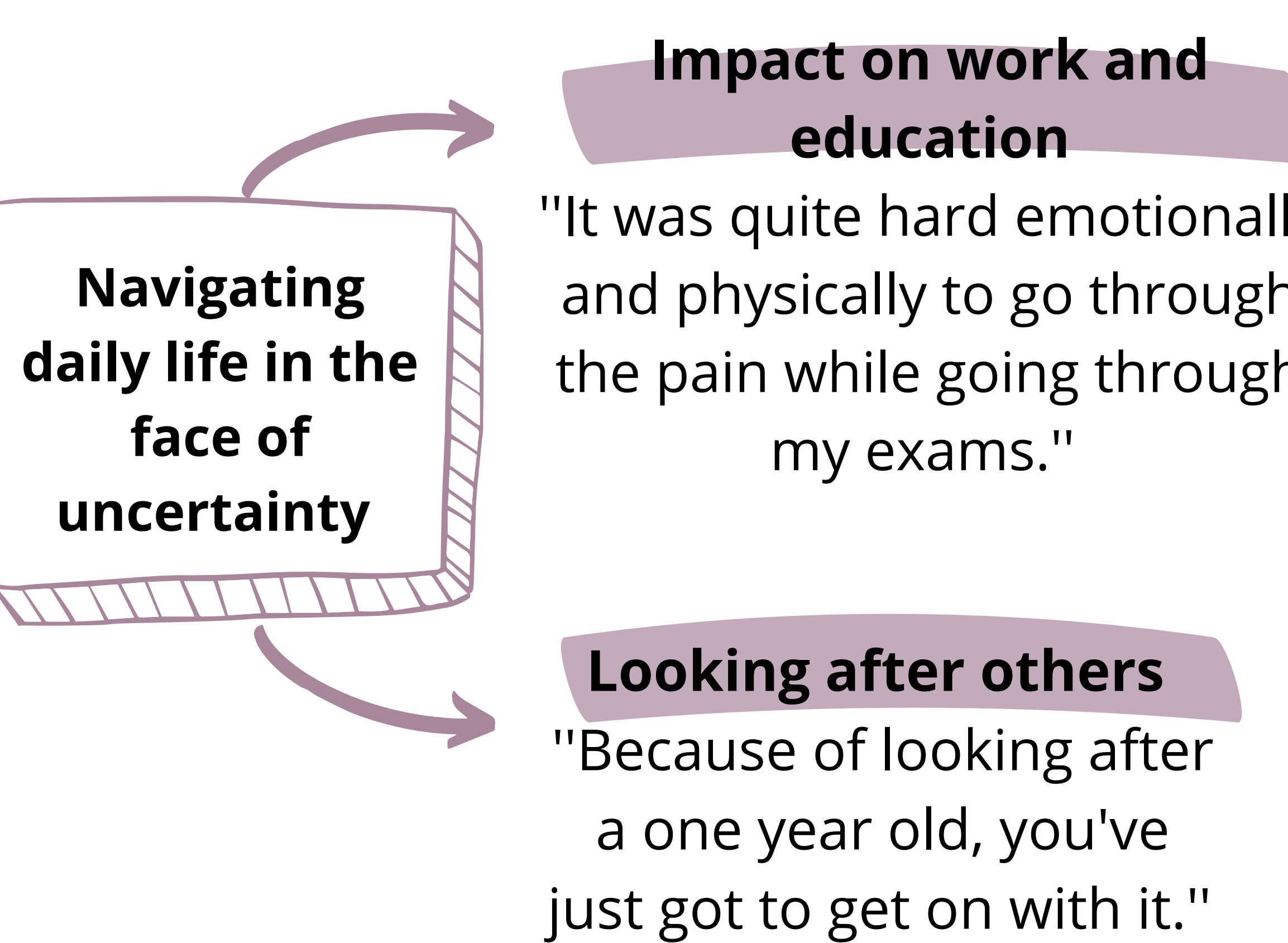
METHODS

- We sought ethical approval to conduct semi-structured interviews with women presenting to EPAU at a large teaching hospital in the East Midlands.
- We included questions about their feelings and knowledge about bleeding in pregnancy, impact on day to day life, sources of information used, support received and suggestions for how their care could be improved.
- The interview transcripts were transcribed and coded in Nvivo with emerging themes identified.

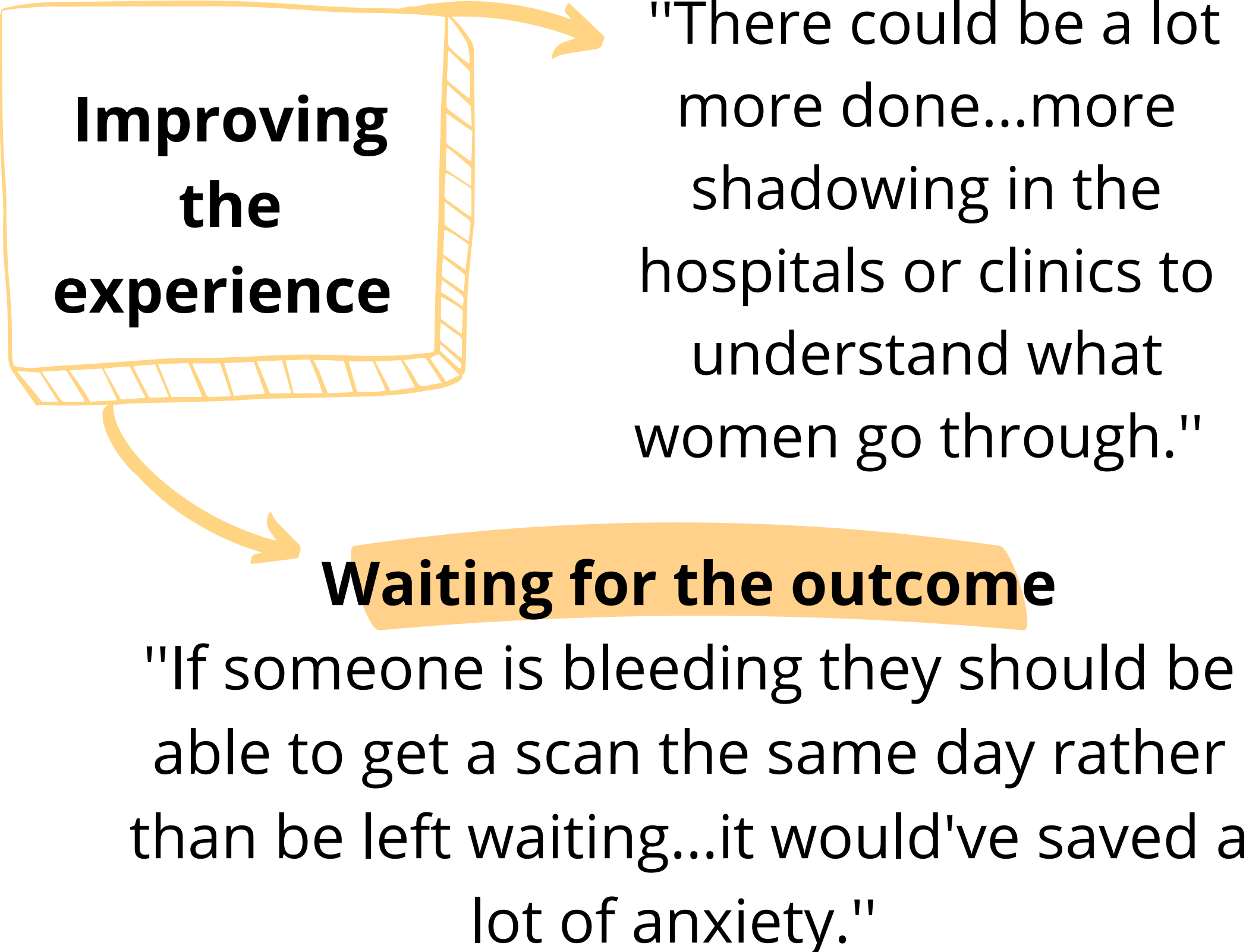


RESULTS

- 19 women were eligible for inclusion in the study.
- 5 overarching themes were identified and were then divided into further sub-categories.



Understanding the difficulties



FINDINGS

- Threatened miscarriage continues to be an anxiety-provoking and traumatic experience for women.
- The areas which they would like to be prioritised include improved communication and understanding of their experience, increased service provision to reduce waiting times and targeted information about this specific type of miscarriage as opposed to generic information about miscarriage.

