



**Think about the layout on the page**  
– narrower/aligned boxes may look neater on the page

**Round the text boxes** (to do this, click on the box/all boxes, go to the format tab/edit shape/change shape)  
N.B. This doesn't have to be done for all flow charts, especially if a lot of text, but can look a bit neater if there is space

Participants recruited in GUSTO main study ( $N=1136$ )

GUSTO study participants selected for 5 year postpartum follow-up ( $n=400$ )

Screened for this study ( $n=369$ )

Excluded ( $n=15$ )

- Hypertension at baseline ( $n=2$ )
- Pregnant at 5 year follow-up ( $n=13$ )

Eligible to participate ( $n=354$ )

Dropped out ( $n=78$ )

- Declined to participate ( $n=47$ )
- Withdrew ( $n=31$ )

Completed the study ( $n=276$ )

GDM diagnosed at baseline ( $n=142$ )

Without GDM at baseline ( $n=134$ )

**Could the flowchart be better organised/wording improved?**

1. In the previous version, 'rejected on the spot' has been changed to 'declined to participate' (the main text stated the participants declined rather than were rejected) AND this has been added to a 'dropped out' box.
2. Are headings needed/useful?
3. Could  $n$  values be more clearly presented (in brackets)?

**Add colour to ALL flowcharts** using the diabetologia colour palette (<https://bit.ly/32sujGH>)

**Diabetologia style** – make style changes e.g. Arial font, no bold, italic  $n/p$  values, first caps only etc.

**Author query** – raise an AQ, asking authors to confirm they approve of the changes made.