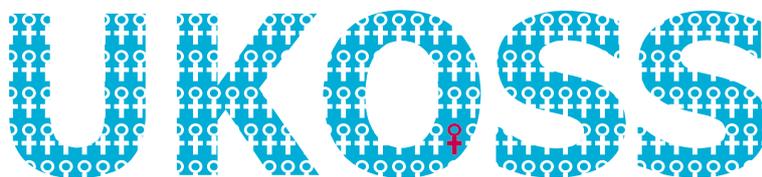




Royal College of
Obstetricians and
Gynaecologists



UK Obstetric Surveillance System



National Perinatal
Epidemiology Unit

Newsletter 16: January 09

Happy New Year!

As UKOSS reaches its fourth birthday, we thought it might be time to reflect on your achievements and thank you all once again for your vital contributions.

- 226 hospitals participating
- 17 conditions studied
- 8 studies completed:
 - antenatal pulmonary embolism
 - peripartum hysterectomy
 - eclampsia
 - acute fatty liver of pregnancy
 - tuberculosis
 - gastroschisis
 - FMAIT
 - obesity
- 5 study results published (see www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/ukoss)
- 5954 women studied
- Provided UK denominator information for CEMACH Saving Mothers' Lives report
- 45% reduction in UK eclampsia rate demonstrated
- Association of peripartum hysterectomy with previous delivery by caesarean section confirmed
- Effectiveness of guidelines for antenatal thromboprophylaxis investigated
- Swansea diagnostic criteria for AFLP validated

Case report summary for current studies to 23/12/08

Disorder	Actual number of reported cases	Data collection forms returned (%)	Number of confirmed cases	Expected number of confirmed cases
Amniotic fluid embolism	86	77 (90)	50	45
Antenatal stroke	38	25 (66)	13	72
Failed Intubation	28	16 (57)	15	42
Malaria	0	0 (NA)	0	4
Myocardial infarction	43	40 (93)	21	65
Non-renal solid organ transplant recipients	30	24 (80)	22	37
Pulmonary vascular disease	52	43 (83)	27	27
Renal transplant recipients	93	76 (82)	69	132
Therapies for peripartum haemorrhage	361	260 (72)	182	533

Thanks to the following hospitals who have returned cards for the last three months:

Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen
 Alexandra Hospital, Redditch
 Altnagalvin Area Hospital, Londonderry
 Antrim Hospital, Antrim
 Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirral
 Ayrshire Maternity Unit, Kilmarnock
 Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust, Enfield
 Basildon Hospital, Basildon
 Bassettlaw District General Hospital, Worksop
 Bedford Hospital, Bedford
 Birmingham City Hospital, Birmingham
 Birmingham Women's Hospital, Birmingham
 Bradford Royal Infirmary, Bradford
 Bronglais Hospital, Aberystwyth
 Burnley General Hospital, Burnley
 Caithness General Hospital, Wick
 Calderdale Royal Hospital, Halifax
 Causeway Hospital, Coleraine
 Cheltenham General Hospital, Cheltenham
 Chesterfield & North Derbyshire Royal Hospital, Chesterfield
 Colchester General Hospital, Colchester
 Conquest Hospital, St Leonards-on-Sea
 Countess of Chester Hospital, Chester
 Craigavon Area Hospital, Portadown
 Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle
 Daisy Hill Hospital, Newry
 Darent Valley Hospital, Dartford
 Darlington Memorial Hospital, Darlington
 Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Derby
 Derriford Hospital, Plymouth
 Dewsbury and District Hospital, Dewsbury
 Diana Princess of Wales Hospital, Grimsby
 Dr Gray's Hospital, Elgin
 Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary, Dumfries
 Ealing Hospital, London
 East Surrey Hospital, Redhill
 Epsom General Hospital, Epsom
 Erme Hospital, Enniskillen
 Forth Park Hospital, Kirkcaldy
 Friarage Hospital, Northallerton
 Furness General Hospital, Barrow-in-Furness
 George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton
 Glan Clwyd District General Hospital, Rhyl
 Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, Gloucester
 Good Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield
 Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London
 Harrogate District Hospital, Harrogate
 Hereford County Hospital, Hereford
 Hillingdon Hospital, Uxbridge
 Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, Huntingdon
 Homerton Hospital, London
 Horton Hospital, Banbury
 Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, London
 Hull Royal Infirmary, Hull
 Ipswich Hospital, Ipswich
 James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough
 James Paget Hospital, Great Yarmouth
 Jersey General Hospital, St Helier
 John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford
 Kettering General Hospital, Kettering
 King George Hospital, Ilford
 King's Mill Hospital, Sutton in Ashfield
 Kingston Hospital, Kingston upon Thames
 Lagan Valley Hospital, Lisburn
 Leeds General Infirmary, Leeds
 Lincoln County Hospital, Lincoln
 Liverpool Women's Hospital, Liverpool
 Macclesfield District General Hospital, Macclesfield
 Maidstone General Hospital, Maidstone
 Manor Hospital, Walsall
 Mayday University Hospital, Thornton Heath
 Medway Maritime Hospital, Gillingham
 Nevill Hall Hospital, Abergavenny
 New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton
 Ninewells Hospital & Medical School, Dundee
 Nobles Hospital, Douglas
 Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital, Norwich
 North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple
 North Manchester General Hospital, Manchester
 North Middlesex Hospital, London
 Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Nottingham
 Pembury Hospital, Tunbridge Wells
 Pilgrim Hospital, Boston
 Pontefract General Infirmary, Pontefract
 Prince Charles Hospital, Methyr Tydfil
 Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow
 Princess Elizabeth Hospital, St Martins
 Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend
 Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath
 Princess Royal University Hospital, Orpington
 Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, London
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn
 Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital, Margate
 Queen Mary's Hospital, Sidcup
 Queen Mother's Hospital, Glasgow
 Queen's Hospital, Burton upon Trent
 Raigmore Hospital, Inverness
 Rochdale Infirmary, Rochdale
 Rotherham District General Hospital, Rotherham
 Royal Blackburn Hospital, Blackburn
 Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Exeter
 Royal Glamorgan Hospital, Llantrisant
 Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester
 Royal Jubilee Maternity Service, Belfast
 Royal Lancaster Infirmary, Lancaster
 Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, Shrewsbury
 Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford
 Royal United Hospital, Bath
 Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
 Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley
 Salisbury District Hospital, Salisbury
 Sandwell District General Hospital, West Bromwich
 Scarborough Hospital, Scarborough
 Scunthorpe General Hospital, Scunthorpe
 Simpson Centre for Reproductive Health, Edinburgh
 Singleton Hospital, Swansea
 Solihull Hospital, Solihull
 South Tyneside District Hospital, South Shields
 Southend Hospital, Westcliff-on-Sea
 Southern General Hospital, Glasgow
 Southmead Hospital, Bristol
 Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, Ormskirk
 St James's University Hospital, Leeds
 St John's Unit at Howden, Livingston
 St Mary's Hospital, Newport
 St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth
 St Michael's Hospital, Bristol
 St Richard's Hospital, Chichester
 Stirling Royal Infirmary, Stirling
 Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury
 Tameside General Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne
 Taunton and Somerset Hospital, Taunton
 The Great Western Hospital, Swindon
 Torbay Hospital, Torquay
 Trafford General Hospital, Manchester
 University College Hospital, London
 University Hospital of Coventry & Warwickshire, Coventry
 University Hospital of North Staffordshire, Stoke on Trent
 University Hospital of North Tees, Stockton-on-Tees
 University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff
 Victoria Hospital, Blackpool
 Wansbeck General Hospital, Ashington
 Warrington Hospital, Warrington
 Warwick Hospital, Warwick
 West Cumberland Hospital, Whitehaven
 West Middlesex University Hospital, Isleworth
 West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds
 West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen
 Western Isles Hospital, Stornaway
 Wexham Park Hospital, Slough
 Whipps Cross University Trust Hospital, London
 Whittington Hospital, London
 William Harvey Hospital, Ashford
 Withybush Hospital, Haverfordwest
 Worcestershire Royal Hospital, Worcester
 Worthing Hospital, Worthing
 Wrexham Maelor Hospital, Wrexham
 Wycombe General Hospital, High Wycombe
 Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester
 Yeovil Women's Hospital, Yeovil
 Ysbyty Gwynedd District General Hospital, Bangor
 Airedale General Hospital, Keighley
 Barnet General Hospital, Barnet
 Barnsley District General Hospital, Barnsley
 Birmingham Heartlands Hospital, Birmingham
 Borders General Hospital, Melrose
 Chelsea & Westminster Hospital, London
 City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Trust, Sunderland
 Doncaster Royal Infirmary, Doncaster
 Dorset County Hospital, Dorchester
 Eastbourne District General Hospital, Eastbourne
 Fairfield General Hospital, Bury
 King's College Hospital, London
 Leighton Hospital, Crewe
 Lister Hospital, Stevenage
 Mater Infirmorum Hospital, Belfast
 Milton Keynes General Hospital, Milton Keynes
 Newham General Hospital, London
 Northampton General Hospital, Northampton
 Peterborough Maternity Unit, Peterborough
 Poole Hospital, Poole
 Princess Anne Hospital, Southampton
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital, London
 Queen's Hospital, Romford
 Rosie Maternity Hospital, Cambridge
 Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan
 Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley
 Royal Bolton Hospital, Bolton
 Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro
 Royal Free Hospital, London
 Royal Oldham Hospital, Oldham
 Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton
 St John's Hospital, Chelmsford
 St Mary's Hospital, London
 St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey
 Staffordshire General Hospital, Stafford
 Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport
 The Jessop Wing, Sheffield
 Ulster Hospital, Belfast
 University Hospital Lewisham, London
 University Hospital of North Durham, Durham
 Watford General Hospital, Watford
 York Hospital, York
 Frimley Park Hospital, Camberley
 Hope Hospital, Manchester
 Leicester General Hospital, Leicester
 Luton & Dunstable Hospital, Luton
 North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke
 Northwick Park Hospital, Harrow
 Nottingham City Hospital, Nottingham
 Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Welwyn Garden City
 Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading
 St George's Hospital, London
 St Helier Hospital, Carshalton
 The Portland Hospital, London
 Whiston Hospital, Prescot

Returned all three cards. Returned two cards. Returned one card.

New Study – Multiple Repeat Caesarean Section (MRCS)

Data collection for the new multiple repeat caesarean section study will start on 1st January, and the condition will be listed for the first time on the blue card sent to you at the beginning of February. Folder documentation is enclosed with this newsletter.

Background

The incidence of primary caesarean section is rising throughout the world and the UK also demonstrates this trend¹. After having three lower segment caesareans women are advised to undergo repeated elective caesarean in any subsequent pregnancies, rather than attempt a vaginal delivery². This practice is thought to reduce the risk of uterine rupture which can be life-threatening for both mother and baby. All caesarean procedures however, have associated risks; venous thromboembolism and haemorrhage - which are leading causes of maternal mortality and morbidity.

Current knowledge concerning the maternal-fetal outcomes and management of multiple repeat caesarean is limited and mainly derived from hospital-based retrospective studies outside of the UK³⁻⁵. This study will determine the national incidence of multiple repeat caesarean section in the UK and identify the accompanying complications and their respective rates. It will allow comparison between the risks associated with multiple repeat caesarean and those described in fewer repeat procedures. It will also ascertain the current UK practice in such cases with regard to timing of elective caesarean and postnatal counselling for future pregnancies.

Study Objectives

- To use the UK Obstetric Surveillance System to describe the current epidemiology of multiple repeat caesarean section in the UK.
- To use the results of this study to provide accurate information to counsel women about the risks of future pregnancies, and to enable appropriate future service planning.

Case definition

Any women giving birth to an infant via her **5th or more** elective or emergency caesarean section (i.e. who has previously undergone four or more other caesarean procedures).

Investigators

Joanna Cook, Mandish Dhanjal, Floria Cheng, Sheba Jarvis, Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, London.

Funding

RCOG UKOSS Award from the Edgar Research Fellowship Fund.

References

1. Office for National Statistics. Caesarean deliveries in NHS hospitals (2004)
2. Birth after previous caesarean birth. Green top guidelines RCOG 2007
3. Khashoggi TY. Higher order multiple repeat caesarean sections: maternal and fetal outcome. *Ann Saudi Med* 2003; 23(5): 278-82
4. Rashid M, Rashid RS. Higher order repeat caesarean sections: how safe are five or more? *BJOG* 2004;111(10):1090-4
5. Juntunen K, Makarainen L, Kirkinen P. Outcome after a high number (4-10) of repeated caesarean sections. *BJOG* 2004; 111(6): 561-395.



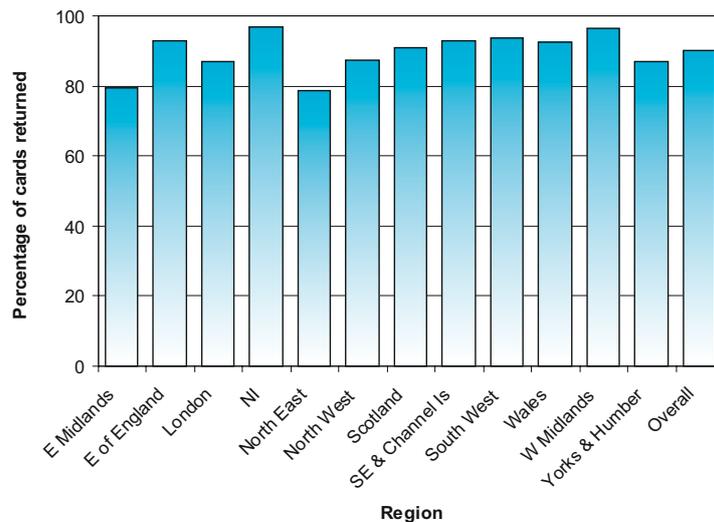
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Important note – Control selection for the MRCS study

This is different to our usual control selection procedure. The controls should be the two women who deliver by elective caesarean section immediately before the case and who have already had at least one, but not more than three previous deliveries by caesarean section. Please get in touch before selecting your control women if you have any concerns about whom you should be choosing.

UKOSS Regional Card Return Rates

Card return rates September - November 2008



We think there are a few lost cards out there this quarter! Northern Ireland and the West Midlands have a tie for first place with six other areas very close behind. Unusually we are particularly missing cards from the East Midlands and the North East. If you think they may have got mixed up with the Christmas post somewhere, please email us your returns and we will enter them manually.



Please note:

The Pregnancy in Renal Transplant Recipients Study is extended for another year. Data collection will finish on 1st February 2010.

British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (BPSU) Conference

The British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (BPSU) will be running a conference celebrating recent achievements on Tuesday 3rd March 2009 at the Royal Institute of British Architects, London. The conference will highlight recent achievements of the BPSU as the Unit enters its 24th year of surveillance and will include a talk on the BPSU/UKOSS FMAIT study.

Details on the conference are available at http://bpsu.inopsu.com/home/2009_conference.htm.

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