MBRRACE-UK

Mothers and Babies: Reducing Risk through Audits and Confidential Enquiries across the UK

MBRRACE-UK and your Health Records

What is MBRRACE-UK?

MBRRACE-UK runs the UK national programme of confidential enquiries investigating:

- All mothers who die during pregnancy or up to 12 months after giving birth;
- Mothers who experience very serious illness or pregnancy complications;
- All mothers whose pregnancy ends in a stillbirth;
- All mothers and babies where the baby dies up to a year after birth;
- Babies who experience very serious illness in the first few weeks after birth.

What does MBRRACE-UK do?

MBRRACE-UK publishes reports for health care providers and health professionals that suggest ways to improve care for mothers and babies.

It is important that we learn lessons from both tragic and happy events. MBRRACE-UK collects information where mothers and/or babies have died, or have experienced severe complications during or shortly after birth.

We also use information about all pregnant women and their babies across the UK. This information, needed for comparison purposes, comes from the registration of stillbirths and live births.

All the information we use is kept in the strictest confidence.

How can I find out more about MBRRACE-UK and the Confidential Enquiries?

For more information about MBRRACE-UK, including our contact details please visit our website:

www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrrace-uk

More information for health service users is available at:

www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrrace-uk/mothers-parents-families

What happens to the information that MBRRACE-UK uses?

We use the following:

- Information and the medical records of women and their babies where there has been a death or serious complication
- The medical records that we receive are fully anonymised by our team so that all identifying details such as name, address and date of birth are removed
- The medical records are assessed by a team of specialist health care professionals; this process is called a ‘confidential enquiry’ and its purpose is to learn lessons to improve care for future mothers and babies
- We also use anonymised information about all pregnant women for comparison purposes
- The published reports do not contain any information that could lead to the identification of any mother or baby whose records were reviewed.

Will I be told if my health records are used by MBRRACE-UK?

Over 800,000 women have a baby in the UK each year. It is not possible for us to ask each woman if we can use her information.

For this reason we have applied through the Confidentiality Advisory Group at the Health Research Authority for special permission from the Secretary of State for Health to enable us to use health records without needing to obtain the permission of the women involved.

However, women do have the right to withhold their information from use by MBRRACE-UK.

If you do not wish information about you and/or your baby to be used by MBRRACE-UK please let us know by contacting us by:

- telephone on: 01865 289715

or

- email to: mbrrace-uk@npeu.ox.ac.uk

HQIP

The Maternal, Newborn and Infant Clinical Outcome Review programme, delivered by MBRRACE-UK, is commissioned by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) on behalf of NHS England, NHS Wales, the Health and Social care division of the Scottish government, the Northern Ireland Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS), the States of Jersey, Guernsey, and the Isle of Man.

HQIP Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership
UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER
NHS The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
TIMMS
sands Saving babies' lives. Supporting bereaved families.
NHS Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
NPEU
WOMEN'S & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

England & Wales v3 2026