



Definitions of terms used in the MBRRACE-UK Perinatal Mortality Surveillance Report

Clinical Commissioning Group

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are responsible for buying (“commissioning”) maternity care on behalf of their local population.

Comparator group

Trusts and Health Boards are categorised and grouped together with similar organisations: either by the number of babies born in their organisation, whether they have either a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) or a NICU and facilities for surgery for new-born babies. Mortality rates can vary between hospitals particularly if those hospitals care for larger numbers of babies or very sick babies. By grouping them together with other similar organisations there is likely to be a fairer comparison.

Crown dependency

There are 3 Crown dependencies: the Isle of Man and the Bailiwicks of Jersey and Guernsey. They each have an independent government and are not part of the United Kingdom. The international community recognises that the United Kingdom has responsibility for the three territories but the relationship is one of support and partnership.

Extended perinatal death

For the purposes of the MBRRACE-UK report, extended perinatal death refers to all stillbirths and neonatal deaths.

Health Board

There are seven Local Health Boards (LHBs) in Wales. Each LHB is responsible for delivering all NHS healthcare services within a geographical area. NHS Scotland consists of 14 regional NHS Health Boards which are responsible for the protection and the improvement of their population’s health and for the delivery of frontline healthcare services. Several Special NHS Boards and one public health body support the regional NHS Boards by providing a range of important specialist and national services.

Health & Social Care Trust

Health and social care in Northern Ireland is also a publicly funded service. There are 6 regional Health & Social Care Trusts. They differ from the rest of the UK in that they are responsible for managing staff, health and social care services.

Late fetal loss

In this report, a baby born between 22 and 23 weeks of pregnancy, who shows no signs of life regardless of when the baby died, is referred to as a late fetal loss (sometimes referred to as a late miscarriage).

Local Authority

Local Authorities are responsible for improving the health of their local population; including children's public health services from pregnancy to age 5, including health visiting.

Neonatal death

A neonatal death is a baby born at any time during the pregnancy who lives, even briefly, but dies within four weeks of being born.

Neonatal network

The Trusts (in England and Northern Ireland) and Health Boards (in Scotland and Wales) are responsible for delivering maternity and neonatal care for their patients. These Trusts and Health Boards are organised into larger 'Networks' in order to ensure that a full range of care is available to everyone.

NHS Trust

A National Health Service Trust is an organisation within the English NHS generally serving either a geographical area or a specialised function (such as an ambulance service). In any particular location there may be several Trusts involved in the different aspects of healthcare for a resident.

Stillbirth

A stillbirth is the death of a baby occurring before or during birth once a pregnancy has reached 24 weeks.