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
  - gastrochisis
  - 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disorder</th>
<th>Actual number of reported cases</th>
<th>Data collection forms returned (%)</th>
<th>Number of confirmed cases</th>
<th>Expected number of confirmed cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amniotic fluid embolism</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>77 (90)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antenatal stroke</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>25 (66)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed Intubation</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>16 (57)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 (NA)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myocardial infarction</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>40 (93)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-renal solid organ transplant recipients</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24 (80)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulmonary vascular disease</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>43 (83)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal transplant recipients</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>76 (82)</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapies for peripartum haemorrhage</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>260 (72)</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>533</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thanks to the following hospitals who have returned cards for the last three months:

- Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen
- Alexandria Hospital, Redditch
- Alltray Campus Hospital, Londonderry
- Antrim Hospital, Antrim
- Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirral
- Ayrshire Maternity Unit, Kilmarnock
- Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust, Enfield
- Basildon Hospital, Basildon
- Basildon 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
- Calverley Hospital, Wetherby
- 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
- Enfield General Hospital, Enfield
- Erasmus Hospital, Nenekkan
- Forth Park Hospital, Kirkcaldy
- Friarage Hospital, Northallerton
- Furness General Hospital, Barrow-in-Furness
- George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton
- Glen Clyn District General Hospital, Rhyll
- 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
- Hinchingbrooke 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 V Hospital, Monmouth
- King’s Mill Hospital, Sutton in Ashfield
- Kingston General 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, Melthry Tidfi
- Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow
- Princess Elizabeth Hospital, St Martins
- Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend
- Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath
- Queen’s Hospital, 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 Derby Hospital, Chester
- Royal Glanmor Hospital, Llantristant
- 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
- Southern General Hospital, Glasgow
- Southend 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
- Tamworth 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
- Whips Cross University Trust Hospital, London
- Whittington Hospital, London
- William Harvey Hospital, Ashford
- Wiltshire Hosp General Road, Swindon
- 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
- Walford General Hospital, Walford
- 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
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 trend\(^1\). After having three lower segment caesareans women are advised to undergo repeated elective caesarean in any subsequent pregnancies, rather than attempt a vaginal delivery\(^2\). 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 UK\(^3-5\). 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 5\(^{th}\) or more elective or emergency caesarean section (i.e. who has previously undergone four or more other caesarean procedures).

Investigators

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

Funding

RCOG UKOSS Award from the Edgar Research Fellowship Fund.

References

2. Birth after previous caesarean birth. Green top guidelines RCOG 2007
4. Rashid M, Rashid RS. Higher order repeat caesarean sections: how safe are five or more? BJOG 2004;111(10):1090-4

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.
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.

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.


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