

The Queensland Preterm Birth Prevention Program GP Workshop

Education Centre, Herston

9 March 2024



Improvement



Transparency



Patient Safety



Clinician Leadership



Innovation



AUSTRALIAN
Preterm Birth
Prevention
ALLIANCE



Queensland
Government

Online
participants
only

Queensland Preterm Birth
Prevention Program GP Forum -
March 9 - Registration



Housekeeping

Evacuation/Fire
Exits



Mobile phones



Facilities



Questions



Survey



Queensland Preterm Birth
Prevention Program GP forum
(Pre-Education Survey)



Acknowledgement of Country



Image Credit: Shutterstock



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Objectives

- Reflect on a patient's lived experience to develop a patient-centred approach to care
- Recall the seven evidence-based strategies to prevent preterm birth and examine any barriers to implementing these in First Nations populations
- Determine factors influencing timing of birth incorporating risk management for stillbirth and prevention of preterm and early term birth where possible
- Apply evidence-based best practice to assess and manage the pregnancy at risk for preterm birth
- Determine indications and pathways for consultation and referral of women at high risk of stillbirth to determine safe timing of birth

Consumer lived experience

Tanya

Thank you for sharing your experience as Mum to Jack born at 23 weeks



The National Preterm Birth Prevention Program

GP Forum

Brisbane

9th March 2024

Dr Chris Lehner

MD, PhD, FRANZCOG, CMFM

Queensland Clinical Lead – National Preterm Birth Prevention Program



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The problem – PRETERM BIRTH

Preterm Birth



The problems

For the mother

Increased risks of obstetric intervention and separation from child

For the newborn

Increased risks of death, cerebral haemorrhage, respiratory support, bowel necrosis and sepsis

For children




Increased risks of cerebral palsy, chronic lung disease, deafness, blindness, learning difficulties and behavioural problems

For adults

Increased risks of metabolic syndrome, diabetes/heart disease, loss of employment and socialisation issues

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

The health and educational costs of preterm birth to 18 years of age in Australia

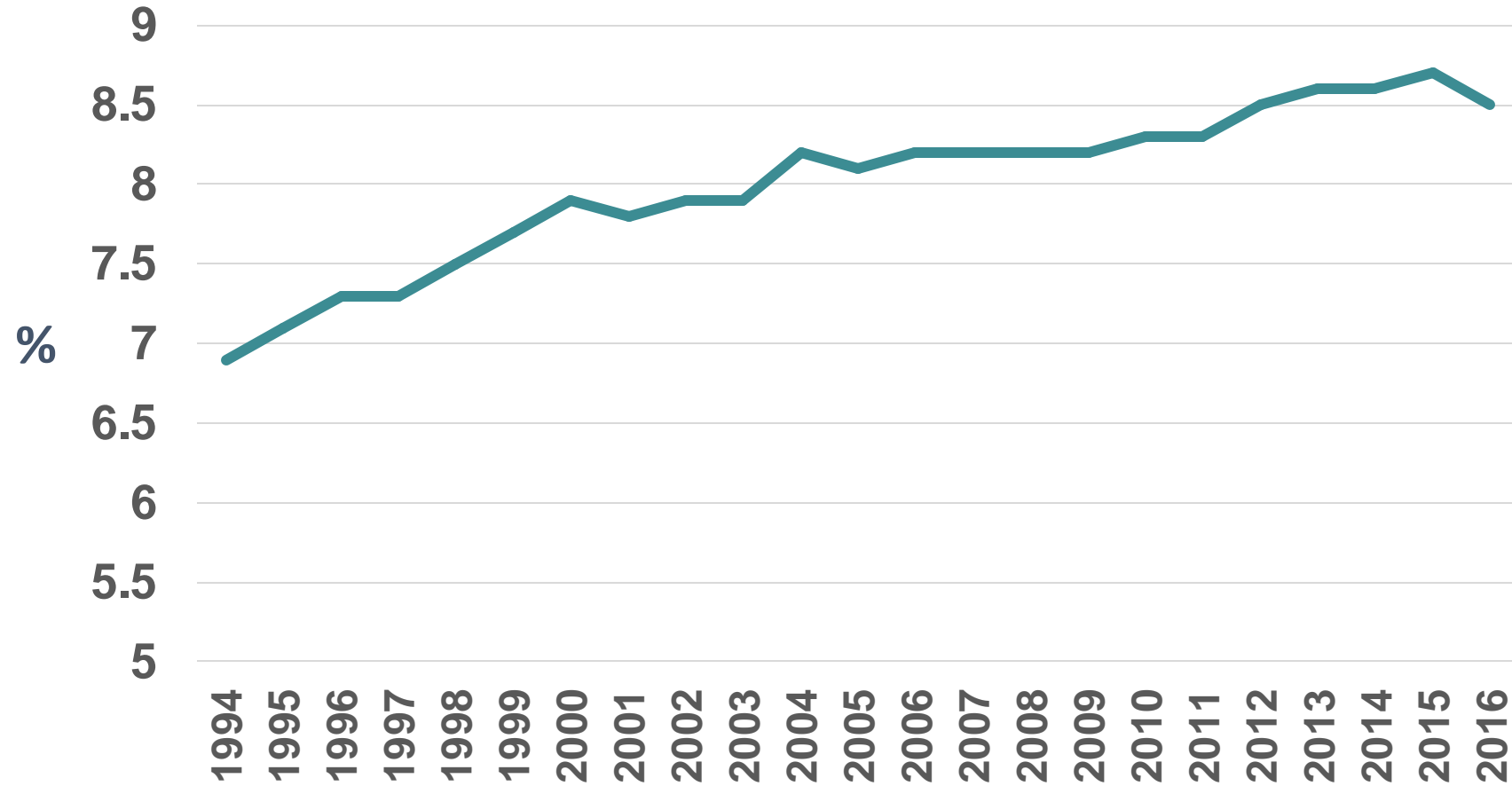
John P. Newnham^{1,2} , Chris Schilling³, Stavros Petrou⁴, Jonathan M Morris^{5,6}, Euan M. Wallace^{7,8} , Kiarna Brown⁹, Lindsay Edwards¹⁰, Monika M. Skubisz^{11,12}, Scott W. White^{2,13}, Brendan Rynne³, Catherine A. Arrese² and Dorota A. Doherty² 

- The cost of PTB to the Australian Government is \$1.4 billion
- Two thirds of the costs are newborn healthcare
- One quarter are additional educational costs
- The average cost of an extremely preterm infant is \$236,036

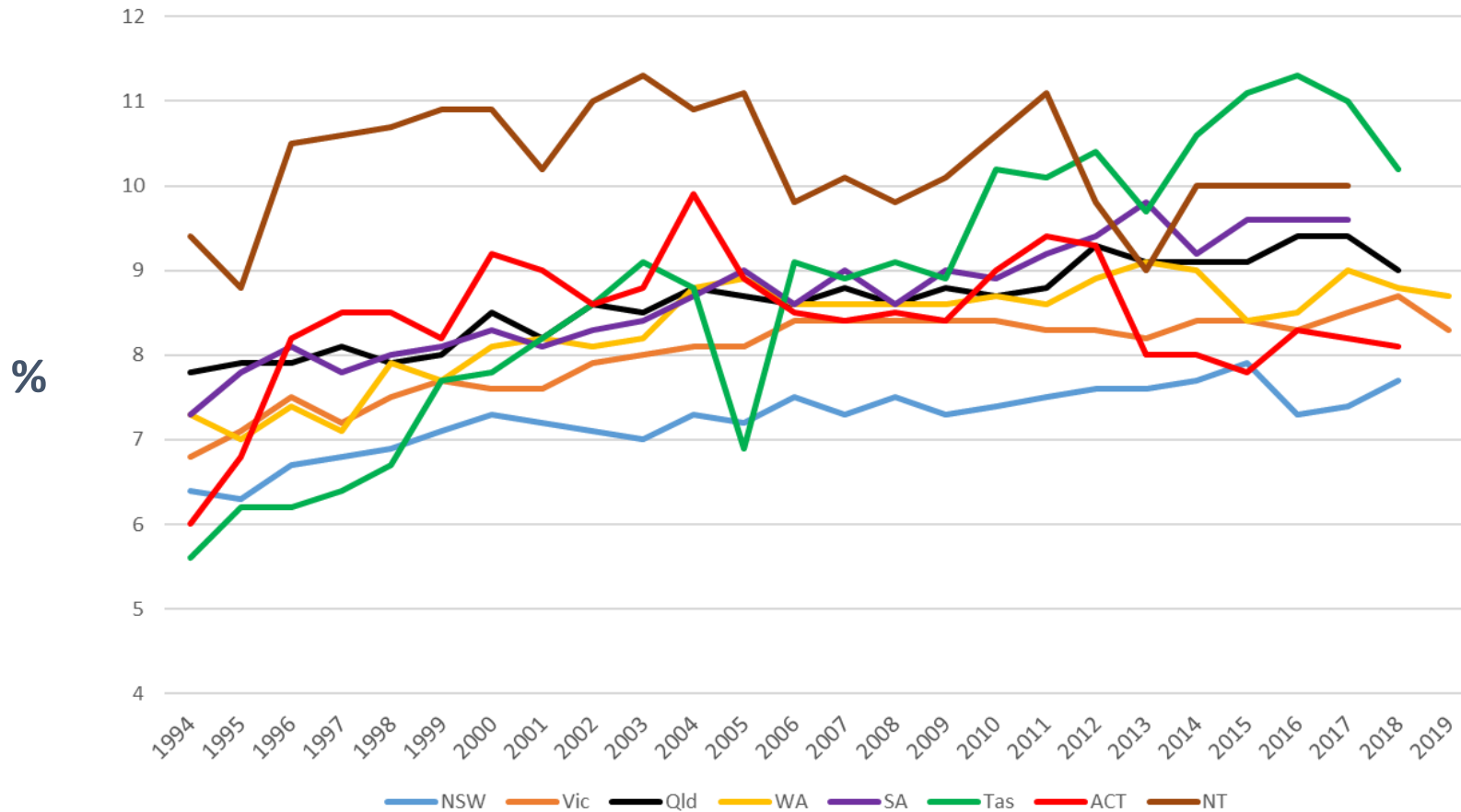
In collaboration with KPMG

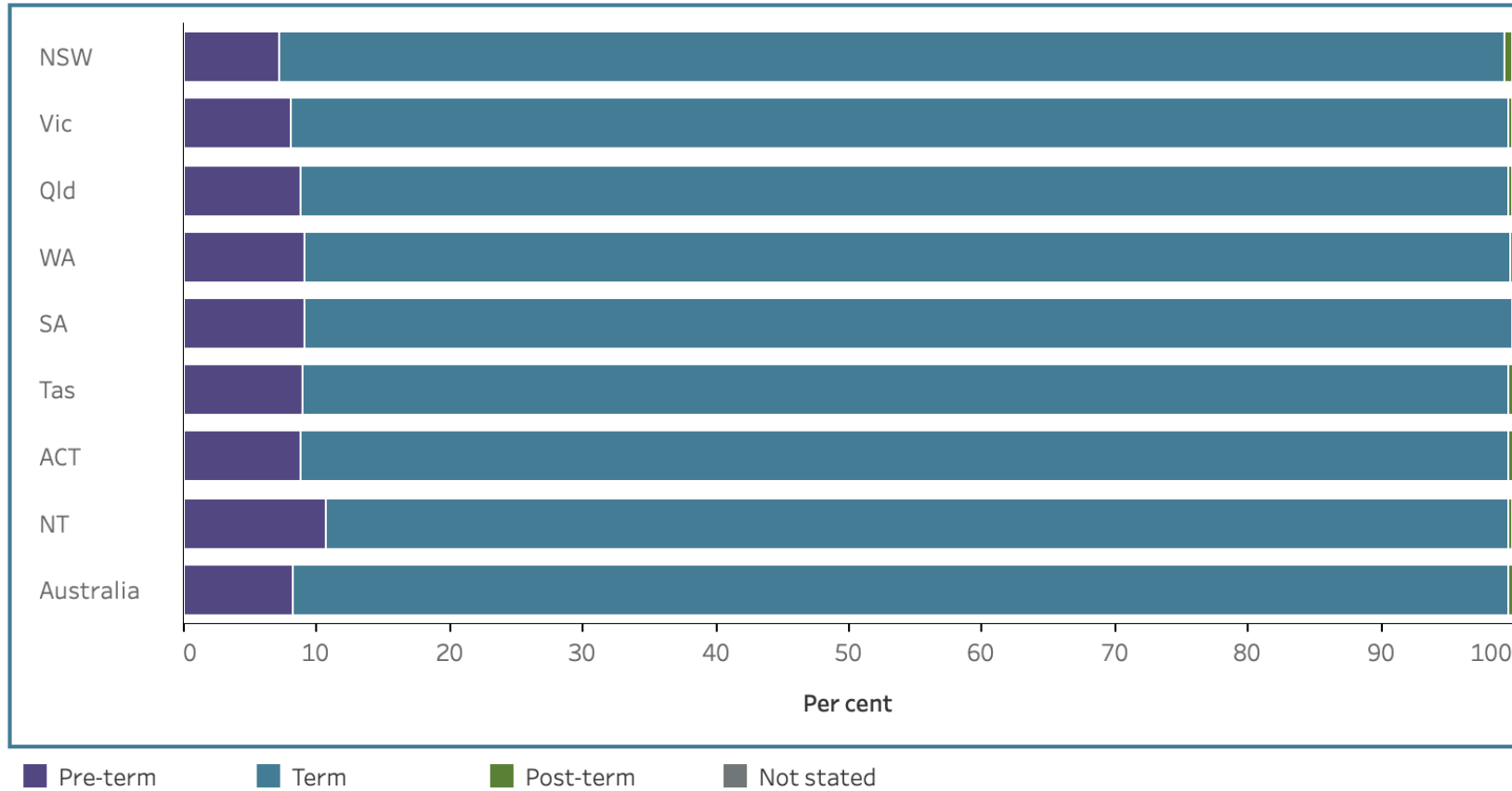
2021

Australian PTB rates 1994 to 2016



PTB rates Australian states and territories 1994-2019





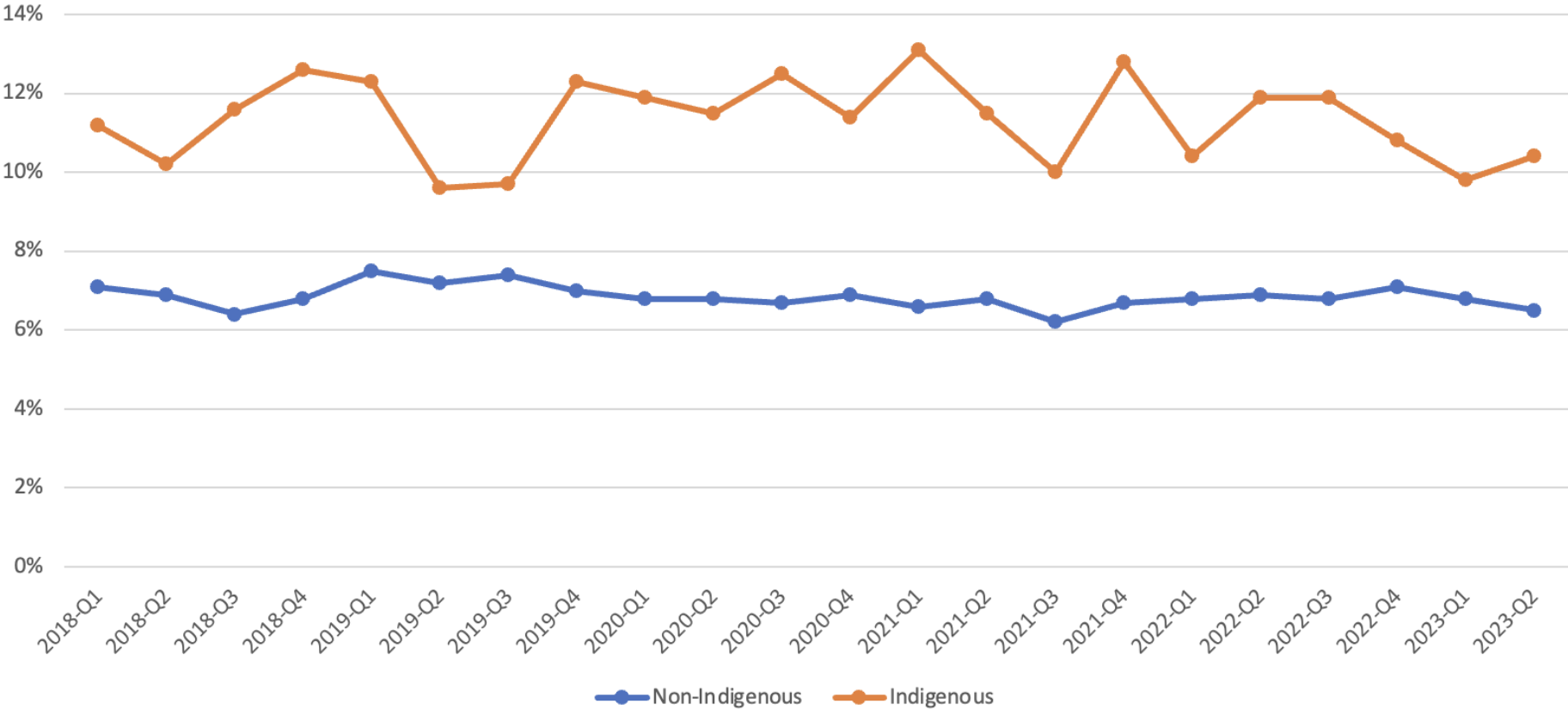
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
2011	7.5	8.4	8.8	8.6	9.2	10.1	9.4	11.1	8.3
2012	7.6	8.3	9.3	8.9	9.4	10.4	9.3	9.8	8.5
2013	7.6	8.6	9.0	9.1	9.8	9.7	9.3	10.5	8.6
2014	7.6	8.7	9.0	9.0	9.2	10.6	9.9	10.6	8.6
2015	7.9	8.7	9.1	8.7	9.6	11.1	9.2	10.3	8.7
2016	7.2	8.7	9.2	8.9	9.5	11.3	9.5	10.9	8.5
2017	7.4	8.9	9.4	9.5	9.6	11.0	9.9	11.0	8.7
2018	7.7	9.0	9.0	9.4	9.7	10.2	9.4	11.9	8.7
2019	7.4	8.7	9.4	9.2	9.0	8.9	9.0	11.3	8.6
2020	7.3	8.3	9.0	9.3	9.0	8.9	8.6	11.4	8.3
2021	7.2	8.0	8.7	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.8	10.7	8.2

Reference: AIHW Australia's mothers and babies
Web Report Updated 13.12.23

QLD singleton PTBs – public

PDC October 2023

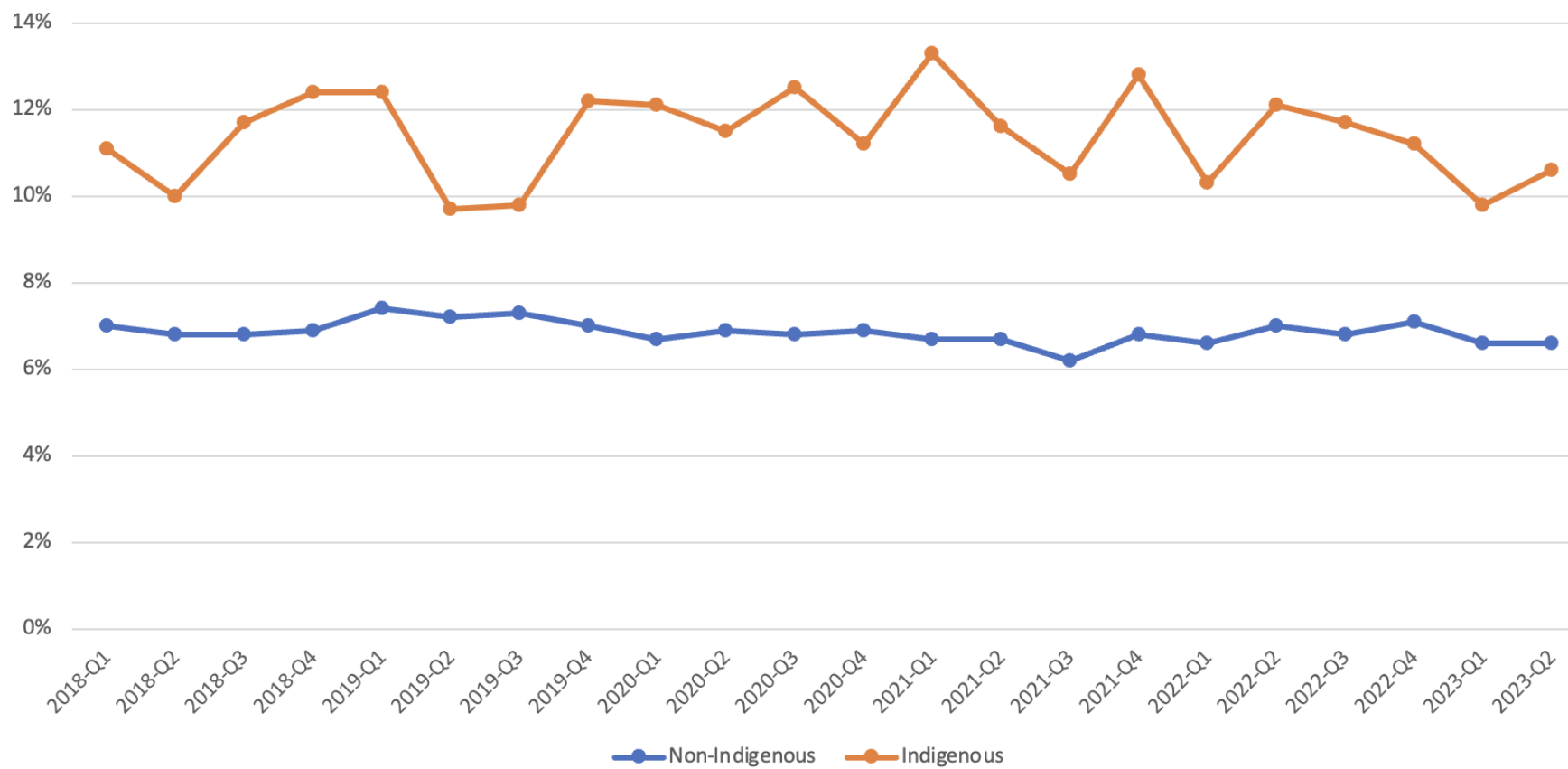
Rate of preterm singleton births (20.0-36.6 weeks gestation) in public facilities in QLD
(Jan 2018-Jun 2023)



QLD singleton PTBs – public + private

PDC October 2023

Rate of preterm singleton births (20.0-36.6 weeks gestation) in public and private facilities in QLD (Jan 2018-Jun 2023)



Preventing Preterm Birth – The Western Australian Initiative

Reports of Major Impact

ajog.org

Reducing preterm birth by a statewide multifaceted program: an implementation study



John P. Newnham, MD; Scott W. White, MBBS; Suzanne Meharry, MBBS; Han-Shin Lee, MBBS; Michelle K. Pedretti, MAppSc; Catherine A. Arrese, PhD; Jeffrey A. Keelan, PhD; Matthew W. Kemp, PhD; Jan E. Dickinson, MD; Dorota A. Doherty, PhD

BACKGROUND: A comprehensive preterm birth prevention program was introduced in the state of Western Australia encompassing new clinical guidelines, an outreach program for health care practitioners, a public health program for women and their families based on print and social media, and a new clinic at the state's sole tertiary level perinatal center for referral of those pregnant women at highest risk. The initiative had the single aim of safely lowering the rate of preterm birth.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the study was to evaluate the outcomes of the initiative on the rates of preterm birth both statewide and in the single tertiary level perinatal referral center.

STUDY DESIGN: This was a prospective population-based cohort study of perinatal outcomes before and after 1 full year of implementation of the preterm birth prevention program.

RESULTS: In the state overall, the rate of singleton preterm birth was reduced by 7.6% and was lower than in any of the preceding 6 years. This

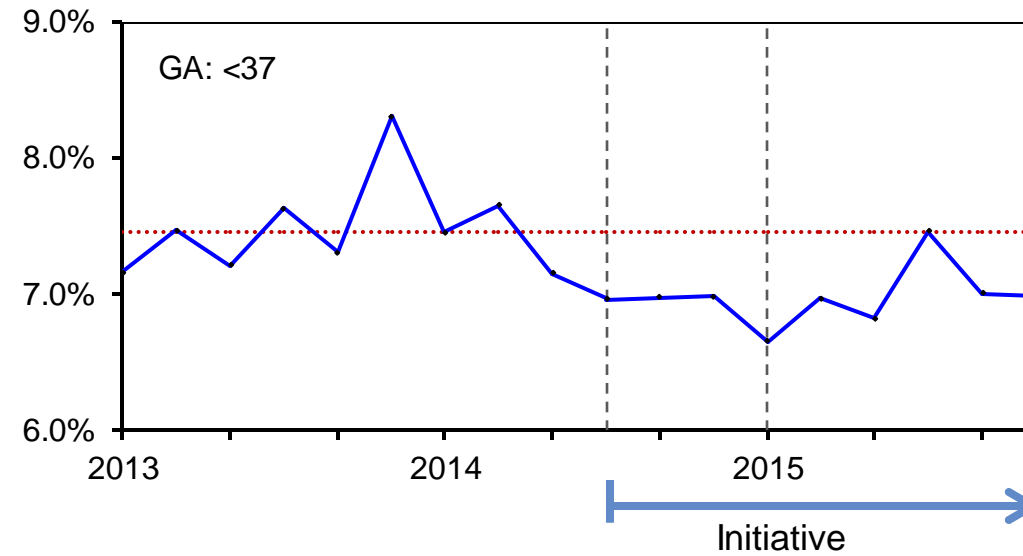
reduction amounted to 196 cases relative to the year before the introduction of the initiative and the effect extended from the 28–31 week gestational age group onward. Within the tertiary level center, the rate of preterm birth in 2015 was also significantly lower than in the preceding years.

CONCLUSION: A comprehensive and multifaceted preterm birth prevention program aimed at both health care practitioners and the general public, operating within the environment of a government-funded universal health care system can significantly lower the rate of early birth. Further research is now required to increase the effect and to determine the relative contributions of each of the interventions.

Key words: implementation, population-based study, preterm birth, prevention

American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology MAY 2017

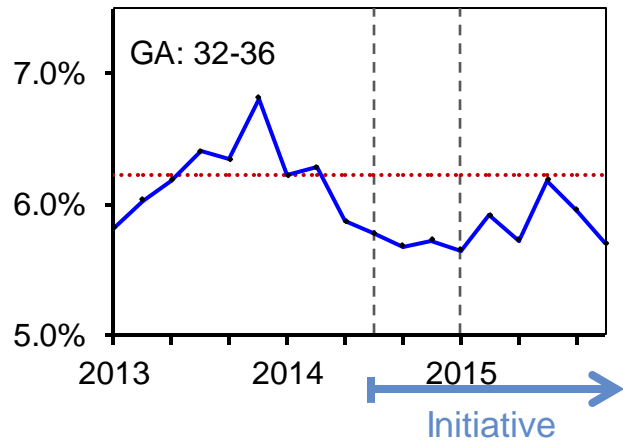
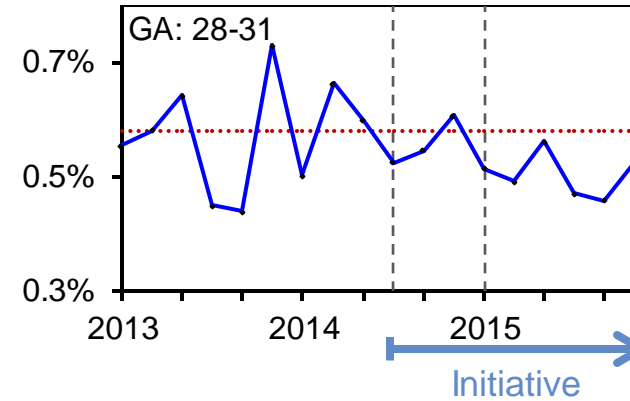
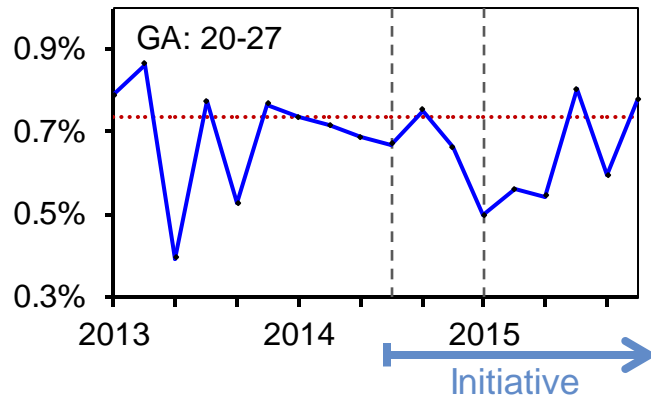
The State of Western Australia



In 2015, the rate of PTB was reduced by 7.6%

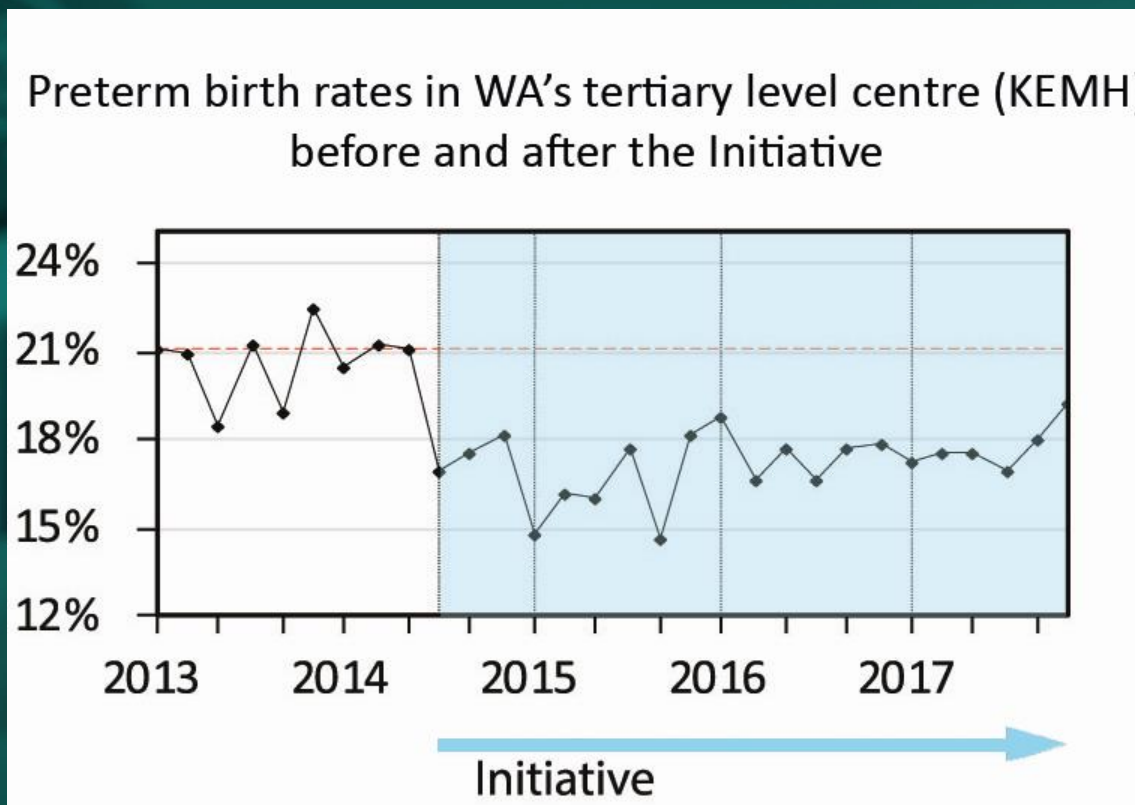
- PTB singleton rates:
- 2012: 7.4%
- 2013: 7.5%
- 2014: 7.2%
- 2015: 6.9%

The State of Western Australia

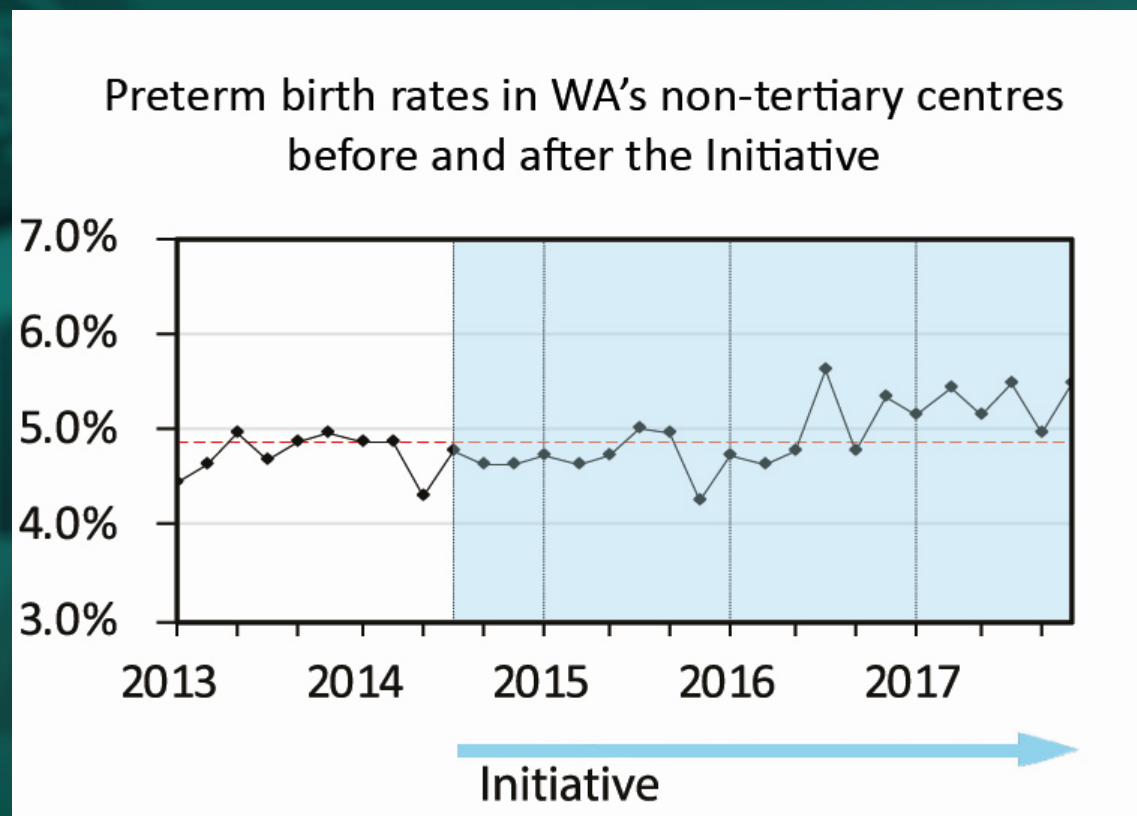


- Decreased rates of PTB
- 32 – 36 week group
 - 28 – 31 week group
 - 20 – 27 week (but not stat sig.)

The Western Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Initiative



The Western Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Initiative



Improvement



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Clinician Leadership

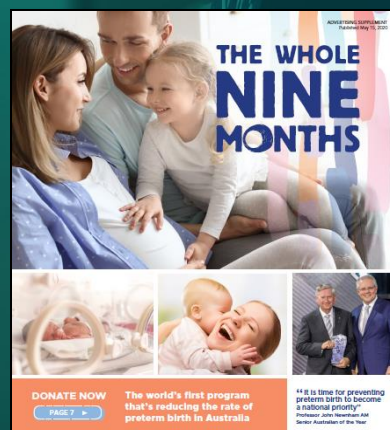


Innovation

The Western Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Initiative



Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Alliance



- Grew from the WA state-wide initiative 2014
- Became national in June 2018
- Supported by an NHMRC Partnership grant
- The world's first national PTB prevention program



Improvement



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Innovation

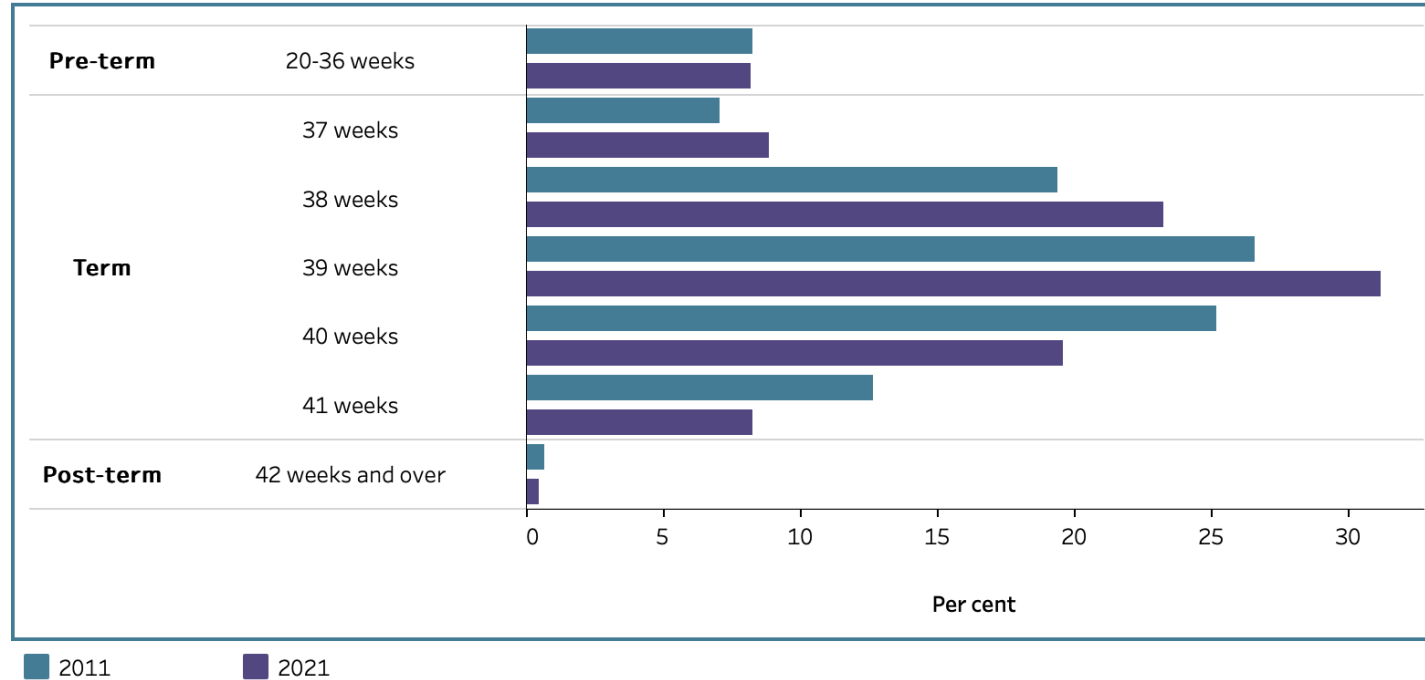
Sydney

November
2018



AIHW 2021 Australia's mothers and babies

Proportion of babies, by gestational age grouped by term and completed weeks, 2011 and 2021



Note: Pre-term births may include a small number of births of less than 20 weeks gestation.

Source: AIHW analysis of National Perinatal Data Collection

The proportion of babies born between 20 and 36 weeks remained steady between 2011 (8.3%) and 2021 (8.2%) with a peak of 8.7% reached most recently in 2018, while the proportion born between 37 and 39 weeks increased (for example, babies born at 38 weeks increased from 19% in 2011 to 23% in 2021) and the proportion born from 40 weeks onwards decreased (for example, babies born at 40 weeks decreased from 25% in 2011 to 20% in 2021).

Australia's planned births before 39 completed weeks

Fourth Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation | 2017

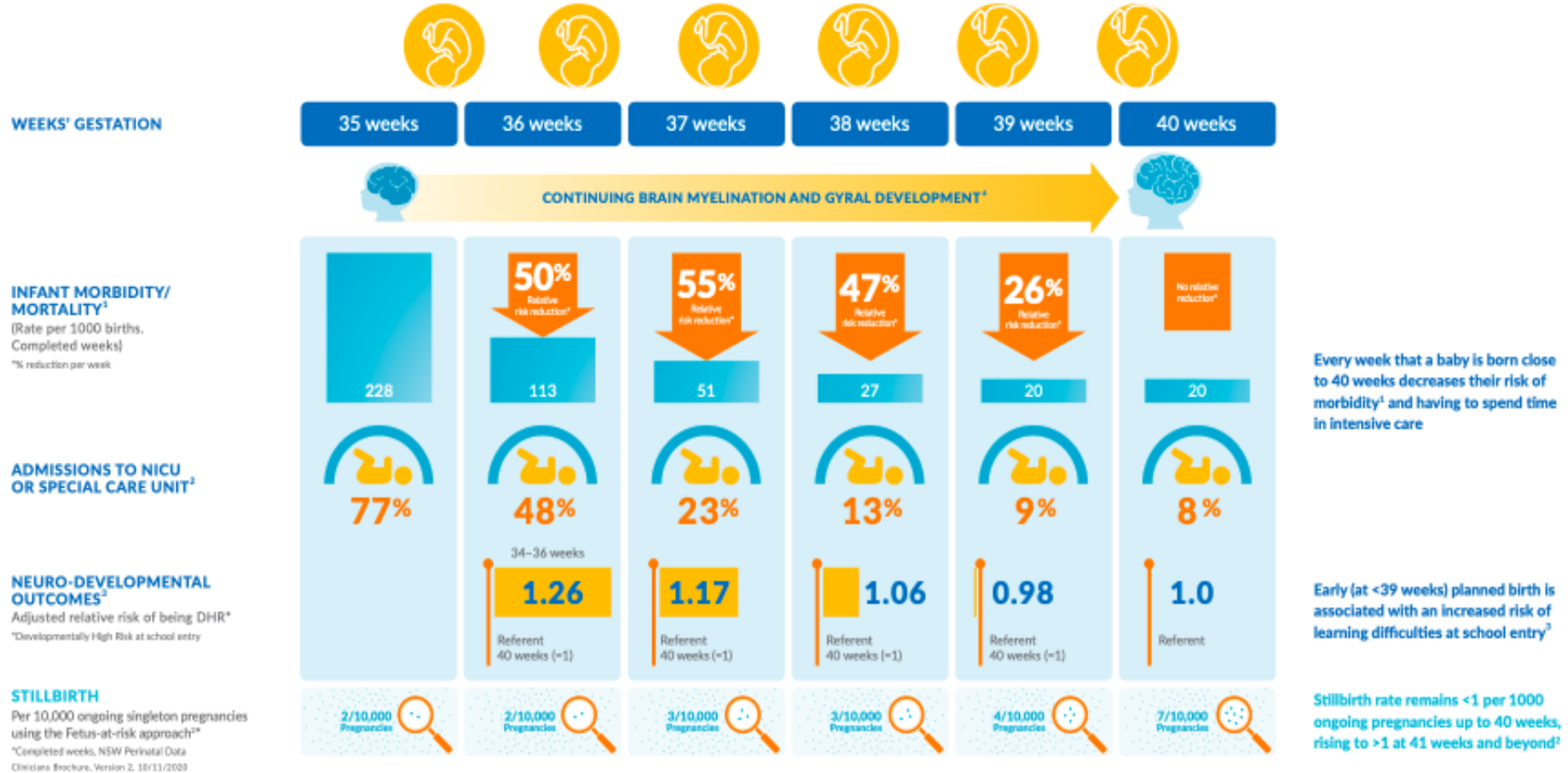
In 2017, Caesarean section with no medical or obstetric indication*:



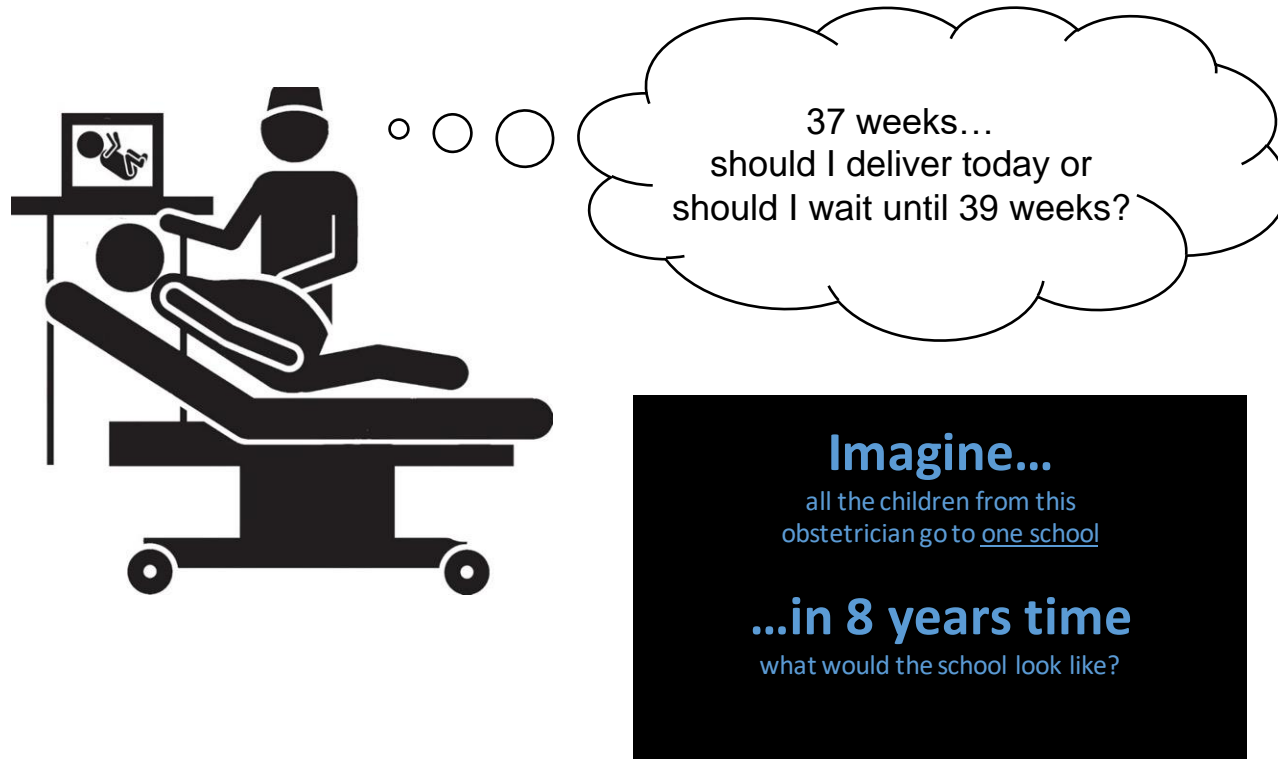
*Ranges are based on rates from seven states and territories. NT is excluded.
Data limitations include that main reason for caesarean section is used as a proxy for reason for early caesarean section.



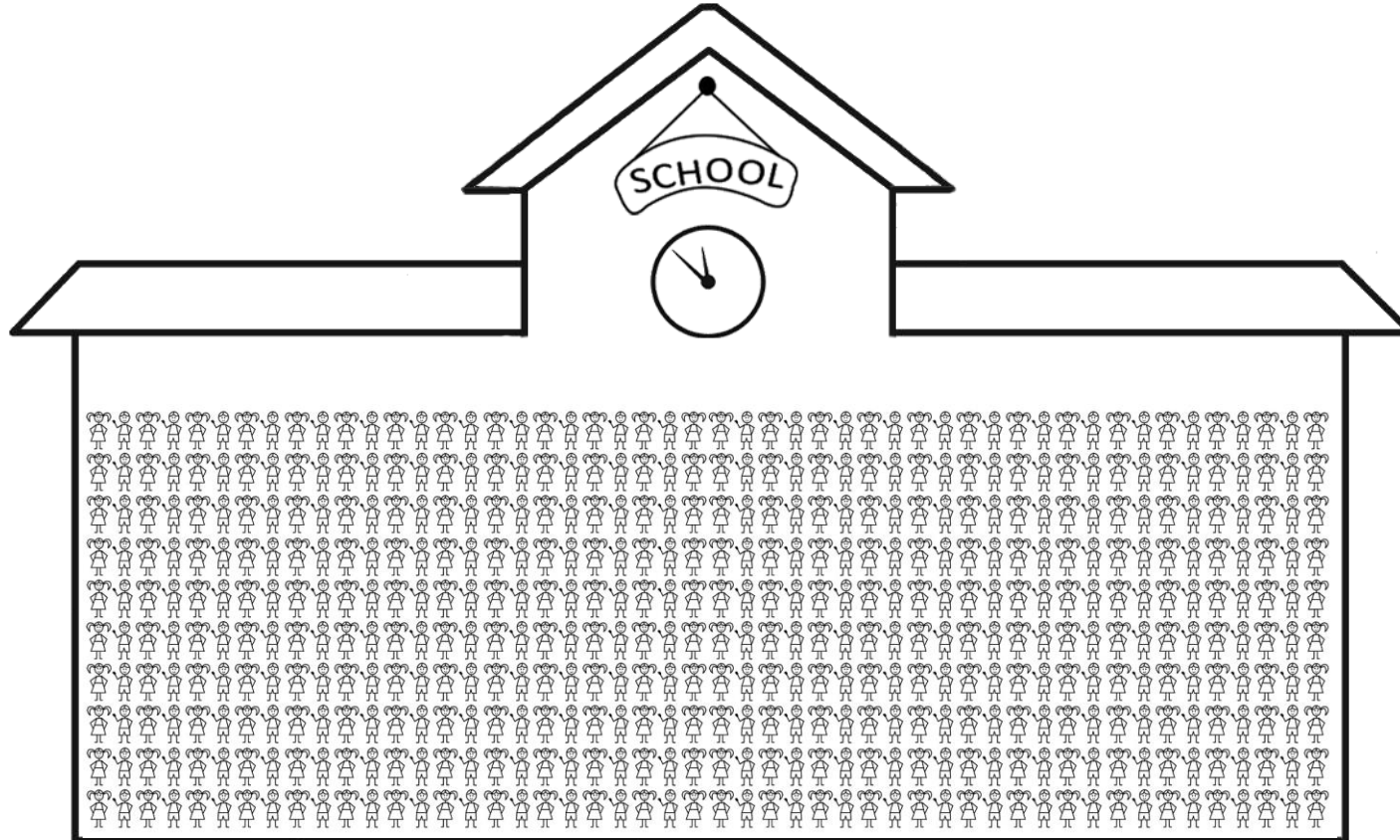
EVERY WEEK COUNTS TOWARDS THE END OF PREGNANCY



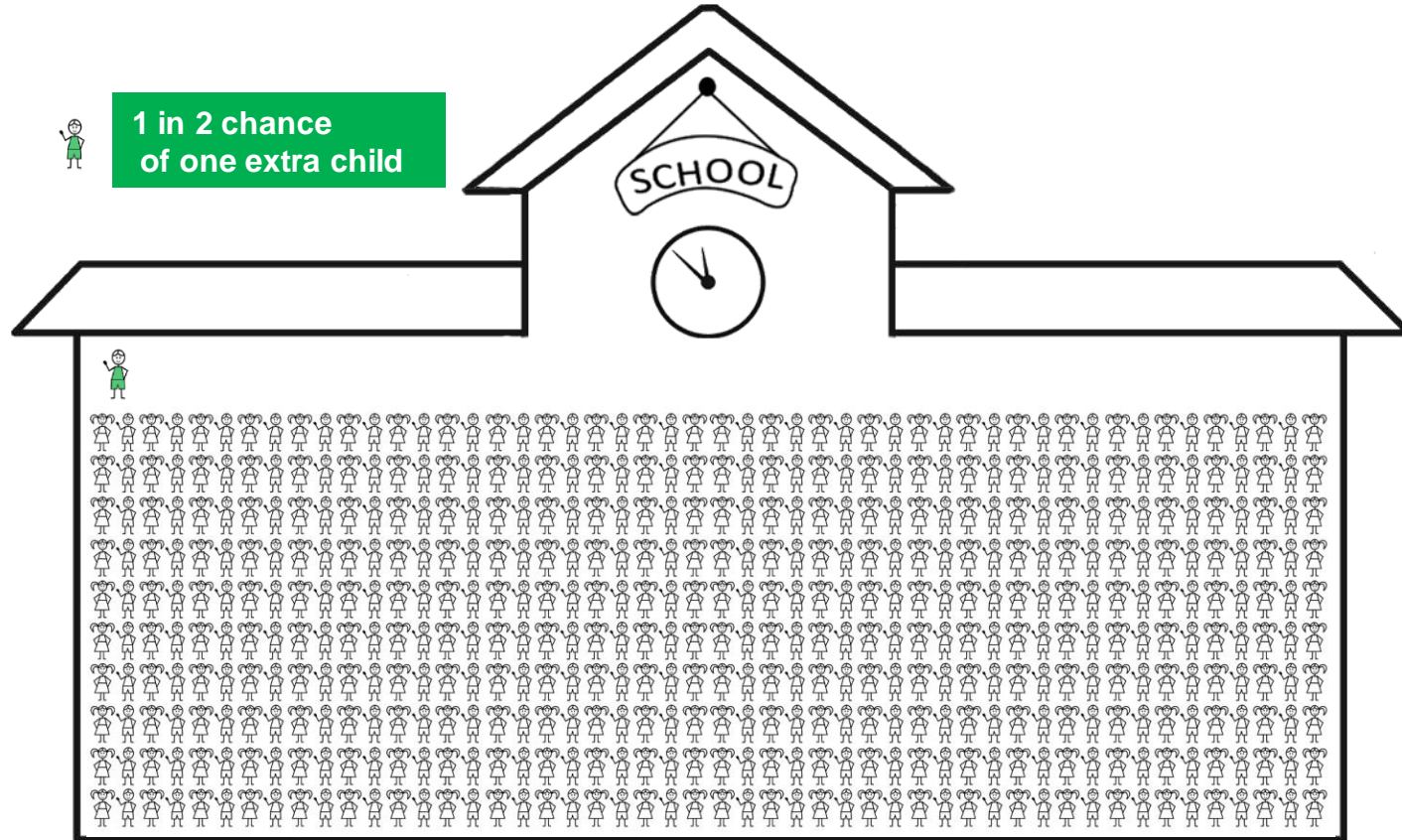
Early term birth: the clinical question



**In a school of 500 children
following a policy of electively ending all pregnancies at 37 weeks' gestation
compared with 39 weeks**

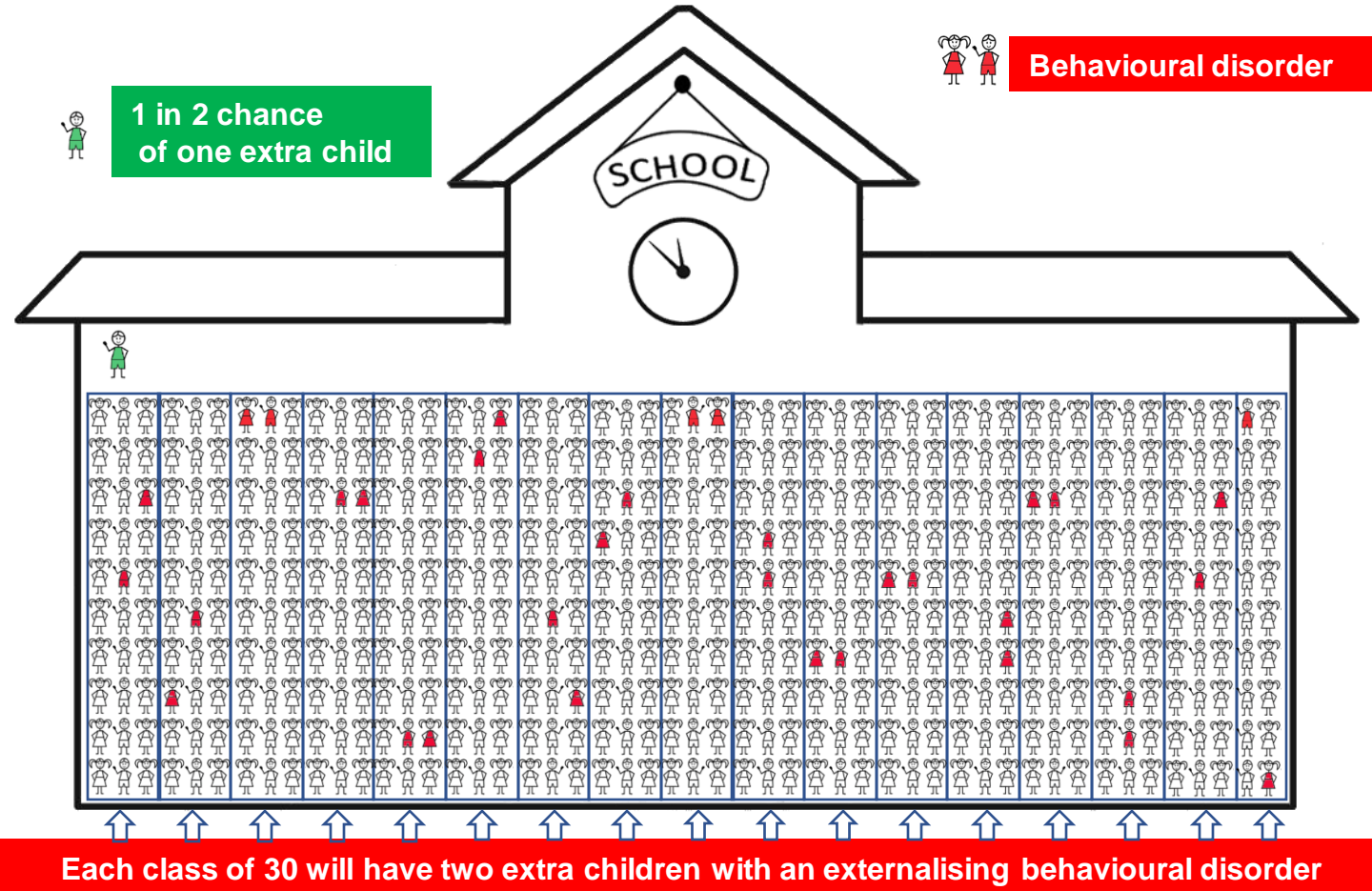


**In a school of 500 children
following a policy of electively ending all pregnancies at 37 weeks' gestation**

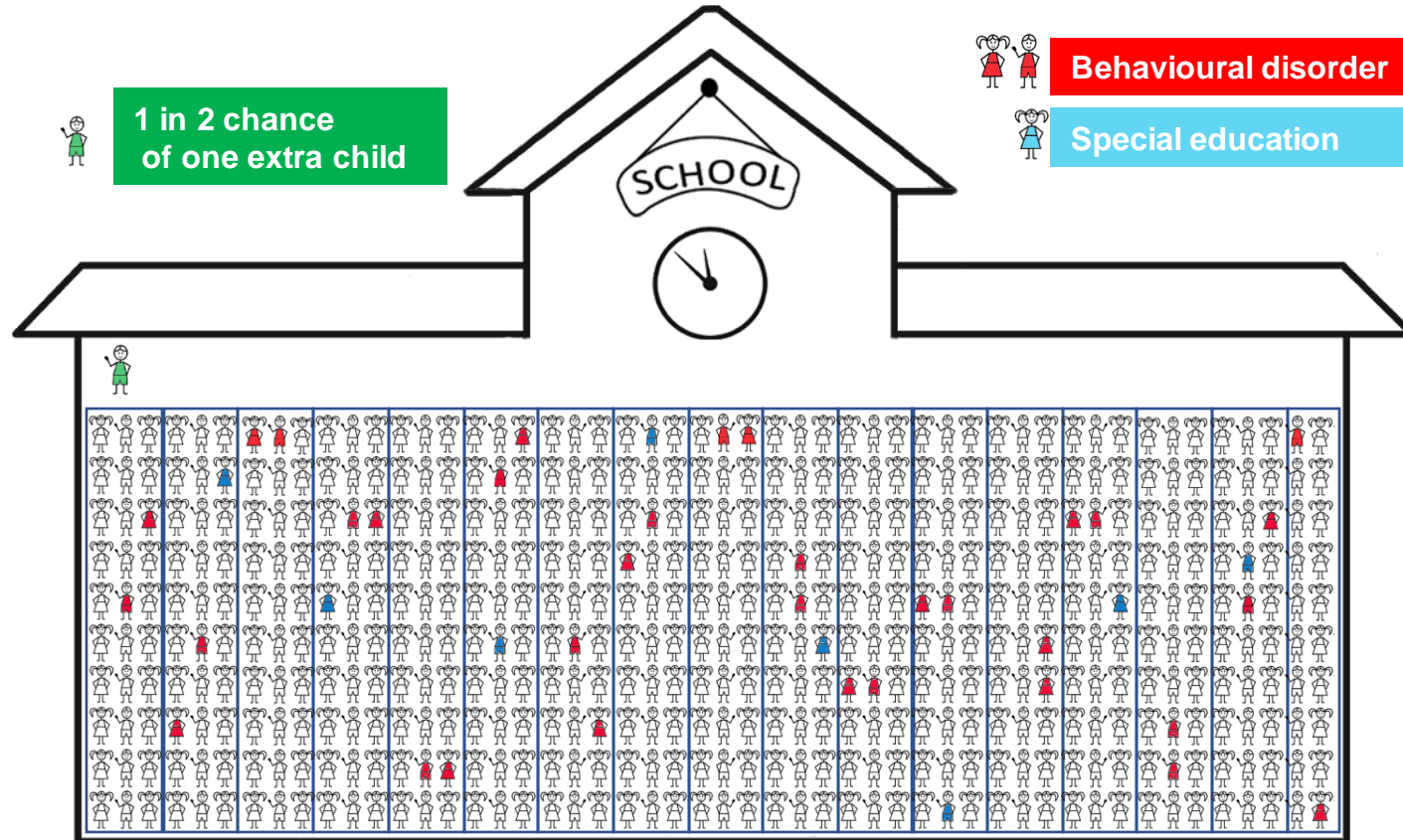


There is a 1 in 2 chance there may be one extra child in the school (prevented a stillbirth) (NNT about 1350 births)

In a school of 500 children
following a policy of electively ending all pregnancies at 37 weeks' gestation

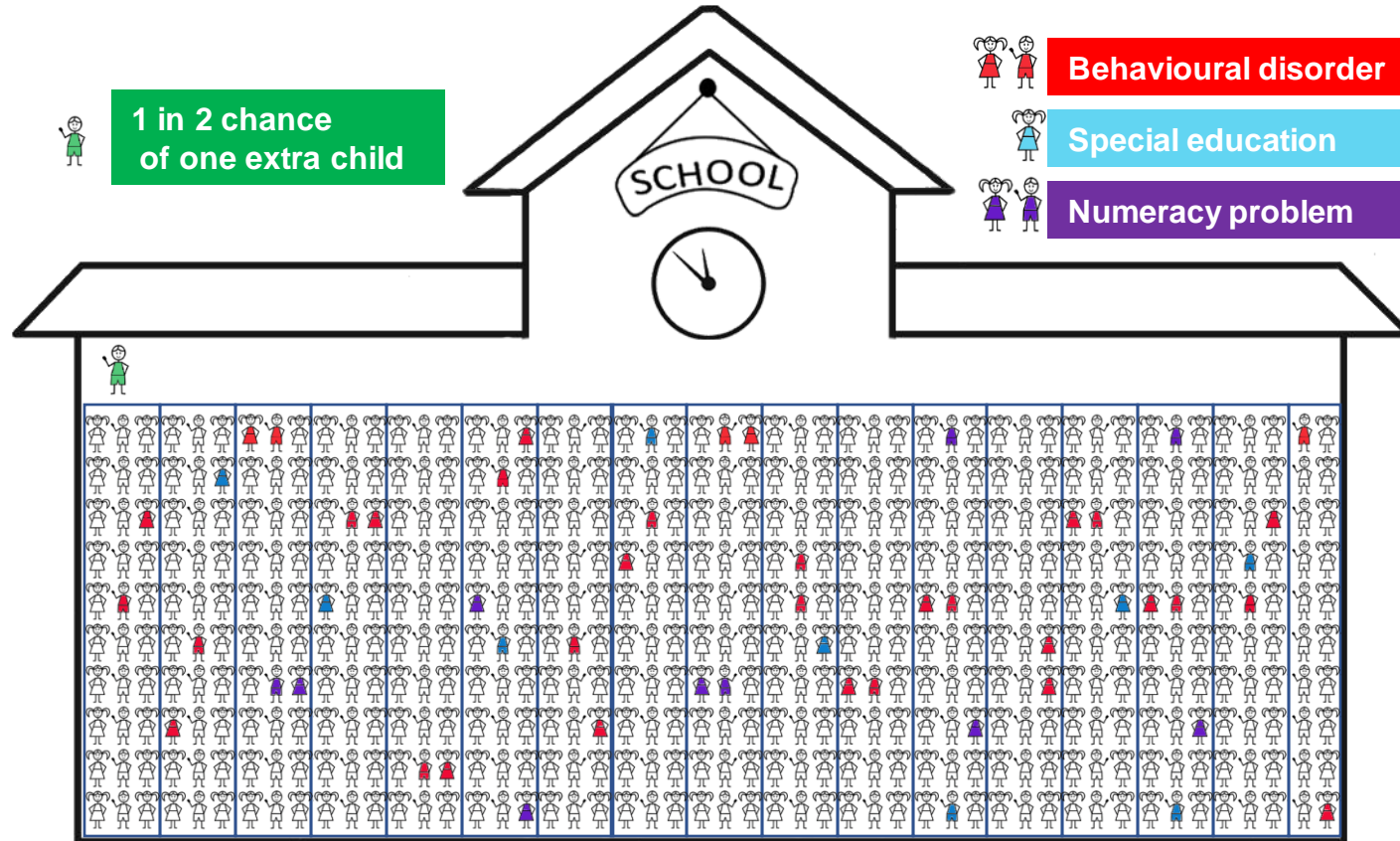


In a school of 500 children
following a policy of electively ending all pregnancies at 37 weeks' gestation



Across every two classes will be 1 extra child with need for special educational assistance


In a school of 500 children
following a policy of electively ending all pregnancies at 37 weeks' gestation



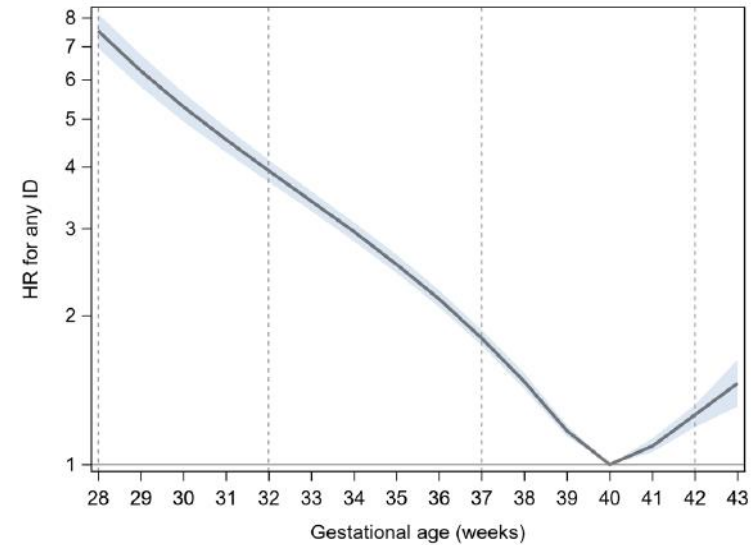
Across every three classes there will be 2 extra children with a basic numeracy problem



Gestational age and risk of intellectual disability: a population-based cohort study

Weiyao Yin ^{1,2}, Nora Döring,¹ Monica S M Persson,¹ Martina Persson,³ Kristina Tedroff,⁴ Ulrika Ådén,³ Sven Sandin ^{1,5}

- Swedish population study 1974-2017
- N = 3.5 million
- Risk of ID increased weekly before and after week 40
- Held for mild, moderate and severe, but strongest for severe
- Remained robust after adjustment for confounders




So then, can we in Australia safely lower the rate of early term birth?

Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol 2021; 1-7 **ANZJOG**
DOI: 10.1111/ajo.13328

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Preventing early births in a regional tertiary maternity unit: Evaluating preterm and early term birth rates before and after implementation of the Preterm Birth Prevention Initiative in the Australian Capital Territory

Roberto Orefice^{1,3} , Julia Smythe¹, Dorota A. Doherty² and Boon Lim^{1,3}

In the ACT, as part of the national program, the rate of early term birth was lowered by 34%



What we had learnt ...

1. We can safely lower the rate of preterm, and early term birth, in the Australian environment using existing knowledge.
2. The program needs to be population based and is most effective in cases that would have been considered low risk.
3. The program needs to be sustained or the effect will dissipate.
4. We have met with success in jurisdictions with smaller populations and with a single centre of influence (WA, ACT, Tas).
5. The larger states, with multiple major centres, will require a different strategy.
6. Collaborative breakthrough methodology is our next chosen strategy (*dual approach in Queensland*).
7. A change package is required rather than a prescriptive bundle, to cater for our large nation, multiple population groups and uncertainty in some of the published evidence.



Preventive Health – Preventing pre-term birth

The Australian Government is investing \$13.7 million for the national rollout of a world-leading program to prevent pre-term birth in Australia. This investment includes:

- \$8.8 million to roll out the successful Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Alliance (The Alliance) program nation-wide
- \$2.5 million to deliver a national education campaign to raise awareness of safe and effective strategies to prevent pre-term birth, and
- \$1.9 million to improve data and analysis for future policy development.

The Alliance is a partnership of clinical leaders, researchers, maternity hospitals, and communities working together to safely reduce the rate of early birth.

The seven strategies

1. No pregnancy to be ended until 39 weeks gestation unless there is obstetric or medical justification
2. Measurement of the length of the cervix at all mid-pregnancy scans¹
3. Natural vaginal progesterone 200mg each evening if cervix <25mm (TV)^{2,3}
4. If cervix continues to shorten, consider cerclage³
5. Vaginal progesterone if prior history of spontaneous preterm birth (or PPRM)³
6. Women who smoke should be identified and offered *Quitline* support
7. Promotion of continuity of care models⁴

References:

- 1 RANZCOG Best Practice Statement C-Obs 27 November 2021
- 2 Romero et al. AJOG 2018 Feb; 218(2):161-180
- 3 ISUOG Practice Guideline UOG 2022; 60: 435-456
- 4 Sandall et al. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2016 Apr 28;4(4):CD004667

Measurement of cervix length at all mid-pregnancy scans

Trans-abdominal cervical length (with a full bladder) of 35mm or more is acceptable if the cervix can be imaged clearly and there is no prior history

All others require trans-vaginal scan (cut-off 25 mm)



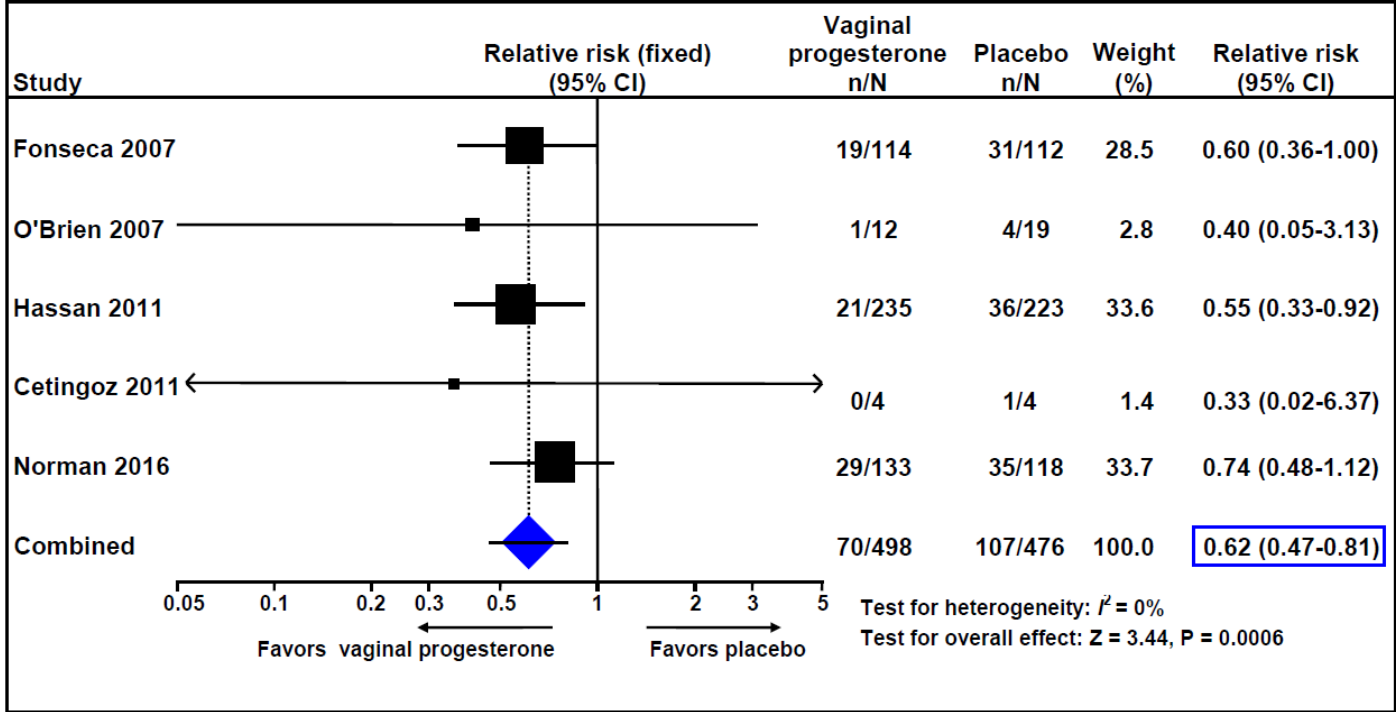
GUIDELINES

ISUOG Practice Guidelines: role of ultrasound in the prediction of spontaneous preterm birth

Provides guidelines on:

- Use of transvaginal measurement of cervical length
- Use of vaginal progesterone for short cervix
- Follow-up scanning and management
- Evidence for and against vaginal progesterone for past history of spontaneous preterm birth
- Does not cover trans-abdominal cervical measurement for which we will use RANZCOG Guidelines

Vaginal progesterone for short cervix - PTB < 33 weeks



Meta-analysis of Individual Patient Data (IPD)

Romero et al, AJOG Feb 2018

Maternal cigarette smoking before and during pregnancy and the risk of preterm birth: A dose-response analysis of 25 million mother-infant pairs

Buyun Liu, Guifeng Xu, Yangbo Sun, Xiu Qiu, Kelli K. Ryckman, Yongfu Yu, Linda G. Snetselaar, Wei Bao

Published: August 18, 2020 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003158>



Women who smoke should be identified and offered Quitline support.

Mega Cohort, US birth certificate data

Any maternal smoking (compared to non smoking)

3 months precon – T1	PTB OR 1.17
T2	OR 1.45
1-2 cigs a day precon + quit T1	OR 1.13
Quit in 3 months precon	OR 1.01

No safe level for cigarette smoking in pregnancy

Promotion of continuity of care models

**Midwifery-led continuity of care models of care
April 2016**



Outcome	Relative Risk (RR) (95% CI)	Number of participants (RCTs)	Quality of evidence
PTB < 37 weeks	0.76 (0.64 to 0.91)	13, 238 (8 RCTs)	High (but no blinding)
Fetal and neonatal death	0.84 (0.71 to 0.99)	17,561 (13 RCTs)	High

More SVDs; Fewer Caesarean sections, instrumentals and epidurals

Midwifery continuity of care reduces PTB by 24%

Consultation with First Nations experts

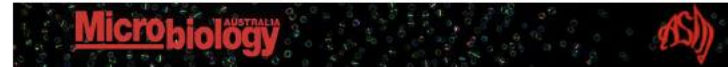
- Advisory Group established
- Review of change package & driver diagram
- Advice on engagement with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander experts
- Tools for assessing cultural safety of care



OBSTETRICS



LAB REPORT
<https://doi.org/10.1071/MA22032>



Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol 2023; 63: 521–526

ANZJOG

Brown et al. *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth* (2024) 24:33
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-023-06164-6>

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

RESEARCH

Open Access

A retrospective, longitudinal cohort study of trends and risk factors for preterm birth in the Northern Territory, Australia



Kiarna Brown^{1,2*} , Carina Cotaru² and Michael Binks¹

Preterm birth in First Nations Women

- Amongst highest rates globally!!
- Complex story, multifactorial (e.g. socioeconomic disadvantage, smoking, infection, chronic diseases)
- Intrauterine infection following PPROM causative in at least 25 %
- *Gardnerella*, *Lactobacillus* and *Ureaplasma (GLU)* predicted up to 45 % of cases of spontaneous PTB in Predict1000 study (predominantly Caucasian women)
- Validation in First Nations Women has begun

Listening to our women: feasibility and acceptability of preterm birth prevention strategies amongst First Nations women in metropolitan Queensland



- Two-part feasibility and acceptability study at RBWH
- *Part 1: To evaluate acceptability of microbiome sampling (vaginal swabs) and compliance of vaginal Progesterone use amongst First Nations women in Ngarrama MGP (survey, Yarning)*
- MDT MGP, Advanced Indigenous Health worker, Obstetrics
- 100 participants
- *Part 2: To investigate feasibility of vaginal microbiome sampling in this cohort of pregnant women to determine causative organisms of preterm birth*
- Collaborative project with *University of Western Australia (M Payne)*
- *Finalising Ethics and grant applications (vaginal microbiome testing in WA)*
- *Clinical Research Fellowship application submitted*

Acknowledgements







Our Partners



The Queensland Preterm Birth Prevention Program

GP Forum

Brisbane

9th March 2024

Dr Chris Lehner

MD, PhD, FRANZCOG, CMFM

Queensland Clinical Lead – National Preterm Birth Prevention Program



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Innovation

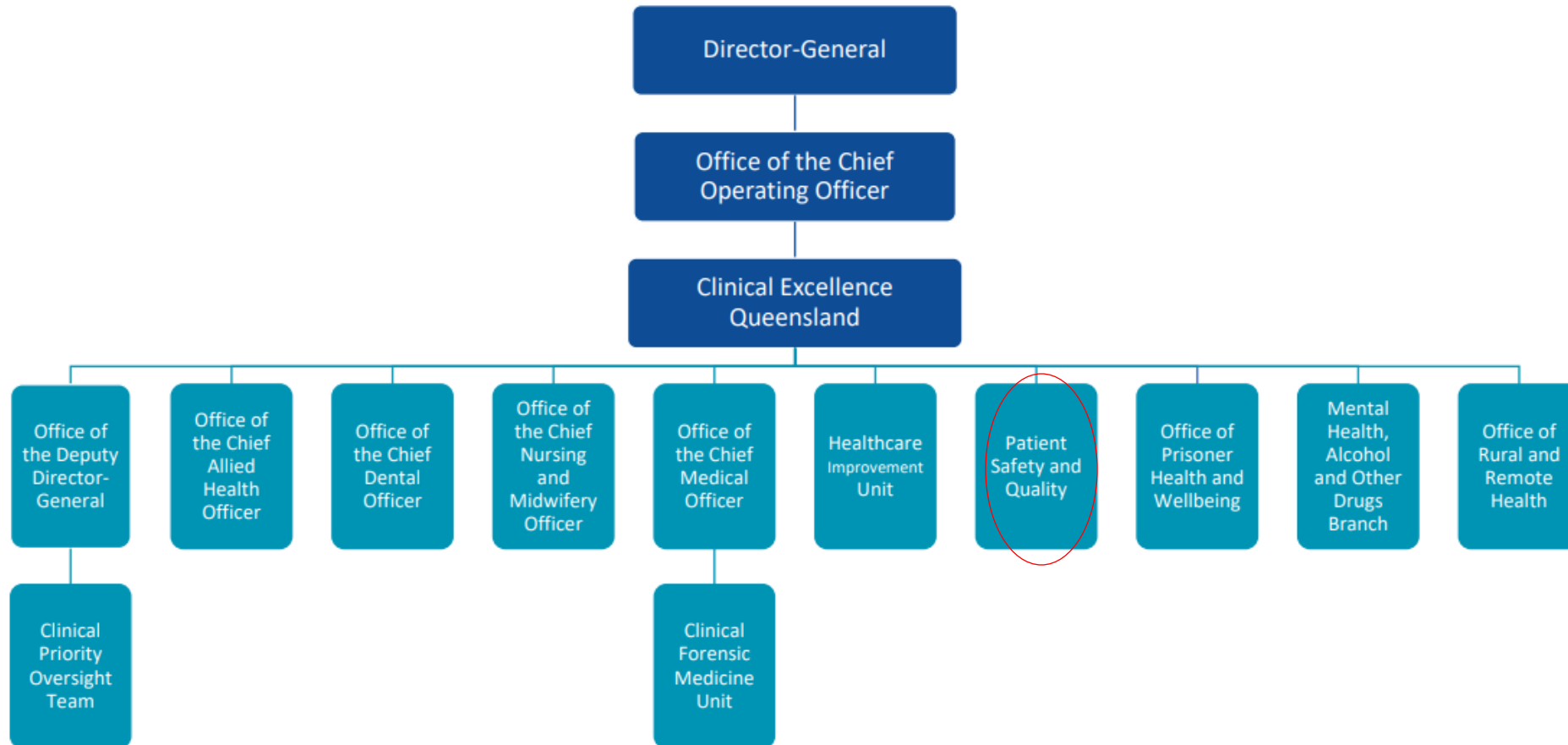


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Government

Clinical Excellence Queensland



Hospital sites participating in the Every Week Counts National Preterm Birth Prevention Collaborative

Northern Territory

Royal Darwin and Palmerston Hospital

Western Australia

Albany Health Campus
 Armadale Health Service
 Broome Health Campus
 Bunbury Hospital
 Fiona Stanley Hospital
 King Edward Memorial Hospital
 Osborne Park Hospital

South Australia

Flinders Medical Centre
 Lyell McEwin Hospital
 Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network

- Murray Bridge Soldier's Memorial Hospital
- Loxton Hospital
- Waikerie Health Service
- Riverland General Hospital

 Women's and Children's Hospital

Victoria

Angliss Hospital
 Barwon Health
 Box Hill Hospital
 Ballarat Base Hospital
 Frances Perry House
 Joan Kirner Women's & Children's Hospital
 Latrobe Regional Hospital
 Mercy Hospital for Women

Monash Medical Centre
 Peninsula Health
 Portland District Health
 The Northern Hospital
 The Royal Women's Hospital
 Wangaratta District Base Hospital
 Wodonga Hospital

50+ maternity hospitals working together to prevent preterm birth



Queensland

Darling Downs Health

- Kingaroy Hospital
- Stanthorpe Hospital
- Warwick Hospital
- Toowoomba Hospital
- Chinchilla Hospital
- Dalby Hospital
- Goondiwindi Hospital

 Gold Coast University Hospital
 Ipswich Hospital
 Mater Mothers Hospital
 Sunshine Coast University Hospital
 The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
 Townsville University Hospital

New South Wales

Campbelltown Hospital
 Fairfield Hospital
 Griffith Base Hospital
 Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District

- Wollongong Hospital
- Shoalhaven Hospital

 Royal Hospital for Women
 Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
 Southern NSW Local Health District

- Queanbeyan District Hospital
- Moruya District Hospital
- South East Regional Hospital – Bega
- Goulburn District Hospital
- Cooma District Hospital

 St George Hospital
 Sutherland Hospital
 Wagga Wagga Base Hospital
 Westmead Hospital

Tasmania

Launceston General Hospital
 Northwest Regional Hospital
 Royal Hobart Hospital

Australian Capital Territory

Centenary Hospital for Women and Children



Two concurrent projects in QLD

National initiative



Preterm Birth Prevention
Collaborative



Nationally funded



Queensland based



Coming to a town
near you

Preterm Birth Prevention
Program

So what's the difference?



Image Credit: Shutterstock

Goal

To improve the health of women and babies by safely reducing the rate of preterm and early term birth by 20% in participating maternity services across Australia by June 2024

**Preterm Birth Prevention
Collaborative**

**Preterm Birth Prevention
Program**

Program Core Elements



7 key strategies to prevent preterm birth

Preterm Birth Prevention
Collaborative

Preterm Birth Prevention
Program

So is it the same then?



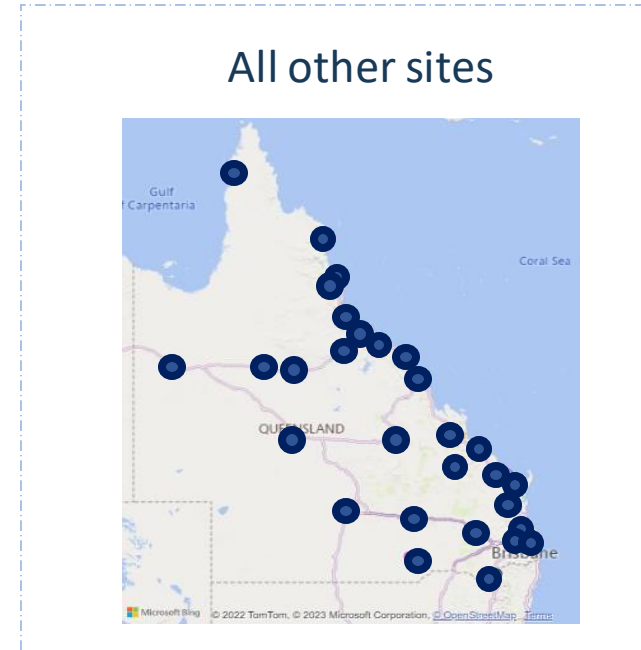
Image Credit: Shutterstock

Collaborative



Preterm Birth Prevention Collaborative

QPTBPP



Preterm Birth Prevention Program

Collaborative / QPTBPP

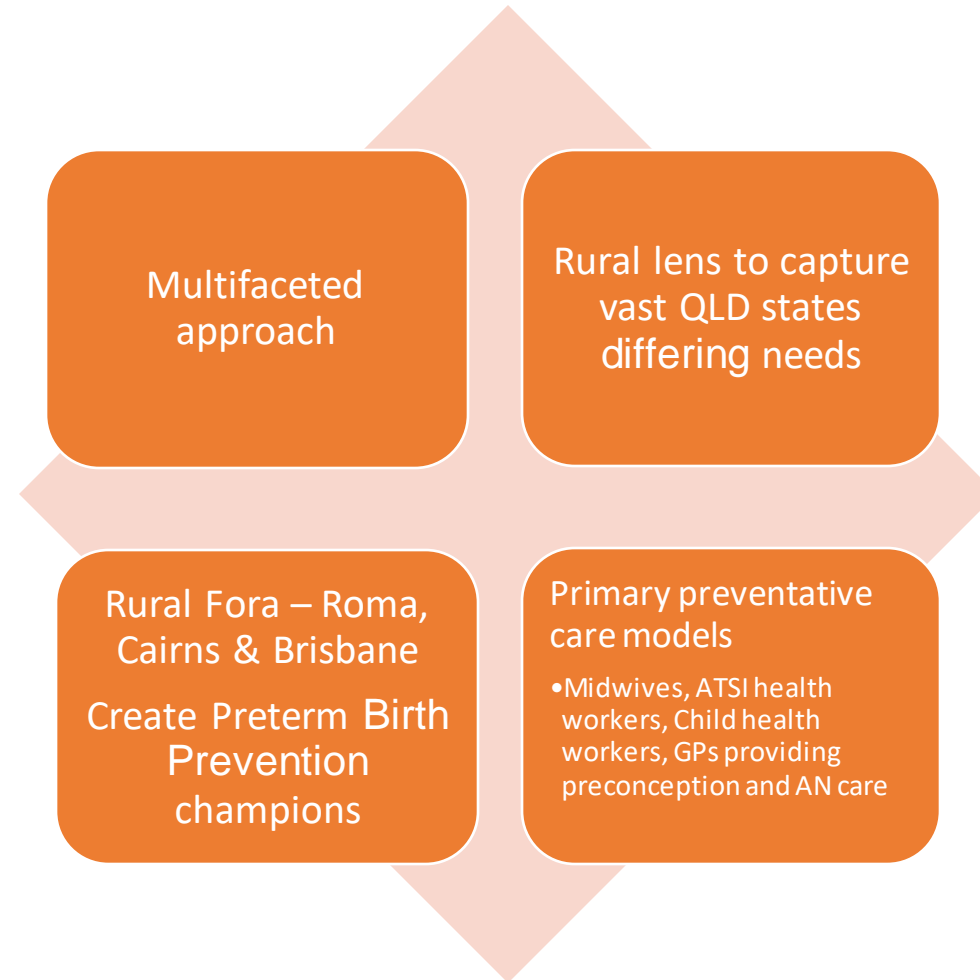
- Focus on improvement science
- 3 x 2-day Learning Sessions (travel team)
- Action Periods (whole team)
- Data collection and measurement of progress
- Coaching Calls/Monthly VCs
- Project portal (Life-QI)
- Share learning from other sites
- Project support
- Resources

Preterm Birth Prevention
Collaborative

- Focus on education / awareness - tailored to site need
- Improvement science assistance
- Face to face on site visits
- Data collection and measurement of progress optional
- Share learning from other sites
- Project support
- Resources

Preterm Birth Prevention
Program

Queensland Preterm Birth Prevention Program (QPTBPP)



Outreach Itinerary – Hub & Spoke Model



Qld Preterm Birth Prevention Program Roadshow Calendar of events

Clinical Excellence Queensland

2023				
Month	Date	Location	HHS	Spoke sites
February	21st	Preterm Birth Prevention Program Virtual Launch		
March	23rd/24th	Roma Rural Forum	SWHHS	
April	18th	Caboolture	MNHHS	Redcliffe
May	11th/12th	Cairns Rural Forum Cairns Hospital	CHHHS	Atherton, Mareeba, Innisfail, Torres and Cape
June	6th	Rockhampton	CQ	Gladstone, Emerald, Biloela
	9th	Logan	MSHHS	Redlands, Beaudesert
July	25th	Longreach	CW	
August	8th	Cairns	CHHHS	Atherton, Mareeba, Innisfail, Torres and Cape
	22nd	Roma	SWHHS	Charleville, St George
	31st	Mount Isa	NWHHS	Cloncurry
September	-	No events	-	
October	-	No events	-	-
November	14th	Hervey Bay	Wide Bay	Bundaberg, Maryborough
December	-	No events	-	-

2024				
January	-	No events	-	-
February	19th/20th	Brisbane Rural Forum	Open to all QH	Open to all QH
March	9 th	Brisbane GP Preterm Birth Prevention Workshop (Hybrid Event)	Open to all Queensland GPs	Brisbane
	22nd	Mackay	MHHS	Proserpine
April	30 th	Thursday Island	TCHHHS	Cooktown, Weipa
May	18 th	Private Obstetric Forum	Open to all Queensland Private Obstetricians	Brisbane



RDAQ2024 CONFERENCE
RURAL MEDICINE
The Art & The Science

MEANJIN | BRISBANE • 20 - 22 JUNE 2024

Join us in Meanjin | Brisbane for RDAQ2024!

RANZCOG Symposium 2024



Lessons learnt so far

- Care fragmentation common – major contributor to poor obstetric outcomes in rural and remote Queensland
- Do your own PDSA and drop interventions which don't work!!
- Try to measure what you do ... even if you think it is impossible!
- Listen ... and learn
- Reflect ... and change
- Networking is key (GPs and Statewide Maternity Alignment Network, rural GPOs, ACRRM, RDAQ, radiologists, private obstetricians, ACM etc.)
- Grateful for buy in and high level support (e.g. QCG)

Shared Resources

- PHR changes



Antenatal Screening Tests		
Preconception screening: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Comments:		
Date	Gestation (weeks)	Findings (document follow-up and management plan on page a11)
/ /		Estimated due date by dating scan
/ /		Screening tests (11–13 weeks + 6 days) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <input type="checkbox"/> Chance of: _____ 1 in _____ • PaPP-A: _____ MoM • <input type="checkbox"/> NIPT (optional): • NT: _____ mm • EDD: ____/____/____ Low chance: _____ High chance: _____
/ /		Reproductive carrier screening – preconception/early pregnancy: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Outcome: <input type="checkbox"/> Low chance result <input type="checkbox"/> High chance result
/ /		Morphology scan Cervical length (if known): _____ mm (TA/TV) <input type="checkbox"/> TA <35mm <input type="checkbox"/> TV <25mm Vaginal progesterone discussed/prescribed: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (document intervention on page a12) <input type="checkbox"/> No Placenta: <input type="checkbox"/> Anterior <input type="checkbox"/> Posterior <input type="checkbox"/> Fundal <input type="checkbox"/> Low lying <input type="checkbox"/> Clear of the OS Fetal morphology: <input type="checkbox"/> No abnormalities detected
/ /		Additional scans (plot scan results on graphs)


Page a5 of 19

Shared Resources

- PHR changes



Date	Antenatal risk factors (Refer to observations, medications, US, graph plots, screening tests)	Management plan (including follow-up)	Initials
/ /	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-pregnancy therapeutic anticoagulation: Antenatal therapeutic anticoagulation		
/ /	<input type="checkbox"/> Cervical length		
/ /	<input type="checkbox"/> Cervical cerclage		
/ /			
/ /			
/ /			
/ /			
/ /			
/ /			
Birth management plan (for events occurring prior to, during and after birth. Refer to page b3 for further preferences)			
Postnatal management			
<input type="checkbox"/> Cervical screening test <input type="checkbox"/> Contraception - Type: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MMR <input type="checkbox"/> OGTT <input type="checkbox"/> ECHO request <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiology referral <input type="checkbox"/> Paediatric review <input type="checkbox"/> Perinatal Mental Health screening and if indicated referral <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			



Queensland Government

Elective Induction of Labour Booking

(Affix identification label here)

URN:

Family name:

Given name(s):

Address:

Date of birth: _____ Sex: M F I

Facility: _____

OBSTETRIC INFORMATION

G..... P..... EDC..... Current Gestation Current BMI

Interpreter Needed

Previous Vaginal Birth Yes No How Many? No

Previous LSCS Yes No How Many? No

REASONS AND PREFERRED GESTATION FOR PLANNED IOL

Type 1 DM Type 2 DM GDM Diet GDM Metformin GDM Insulin Poor control

PET Gestational HTN Chronic HTN SGA/FGR (EFWkg) Macrosomia (EFWkg)

Twins DCDA Twins MCDA PPRM BMI>50

Cholestasis Bile acids 19-39 mcml/l Bile acids 40-99 mcml/l Bile acids >100mcml/l

Postdates (T+10 -12 days) AMA (>40yrs old) IVF Maternal request

Other Reasons

Preferred gestation as per recommendation

BISHOPS SCORE AND PROPOSED METHOD

Stretch and sweep offered/done between week 40 & 41 Yes No Declined

Bishop Score: Documented in iEMR interactive view

Likely method to commence IOL: ARM Balloon Catheter Prostaglandin

Discuss with Consultant Dr: Forward form to bookings Midwife

Name (please print): Designation:

Signature: Date: ____/____/____

SHARED DECISION MAKING/ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge the opportunity to be involved in the decision making process for my planned induction of labour (IOL) known as shared decision making. I acknowledge that IOL is a process which may involve many different steps and this process has been discussed with me, and in collaboration with the clinician. I have had the opportunity to ask questions at this time. I have been provided with consumer information including IOL, Part 1 IOL – cervical ripening and Part 2 IOL – Breaking your waters and Oxytocin.

I am aware that there is a possibility that the timing of my IOL may be changed and if so this will be discussed with me and alternate arrangements will be made, and that each case is considered individually. If this occurs, I will be contacted with alternative arrangements and a plan for attendance at the maternity assessment unit for a pregnancy wellbeing check will be made.

Name (please print): Signature:

Please tick to indicate that the above information has been shared via an interpreter (where appropriate).

BOOKING INFORMATION **MUM Ambulatory Care EXT: 1682**

Name (please print): Designation:

Signature: Date: ____/____/____


Date IOL Booked: ____/____/____ Time _____ Gestation: _____ + _____ Patient Informed

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BINDING MARGIN
Do not reproduce by photocopying. All clinical form creation and amendments must be conducted through Health Information Management Service

V4.00 12/2023



ELECTIVE INDUCTION OF LABOUR BOOKING



Queensland Government

Induction of Labour (IOL) Request and Informed Decision Making Tool

(Affix identification label here)

URN:

Family name:

Given name(s):

Address:

Date of birth: _____ Sex: M F I

Please email completed form to birthsuitebookings@health.qld.gov.au

Date of request: ____/____/____

Requesting clinician: _____

Interpreter required - Language:

EDD: ____/____/____ Gestation: G: P:

Required timeframe: 24 - 48 hours (call #33555) 48 hours - 7 days >7 days At gestation:

Confirm woman's mobile number: Confirmed →

Significant medical/relevant history:

.....

Caseload midwife Name:

Indication (tick all that apply)	Details/Criteria
<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced maternal age	40 years or older
<input type="checkbox"/> Alloimmunisation	Title:
<input type="checkbox"/> Anticoagulation management	<input type="checkbox"/> Therapeutic anticoagulation <input type="checkbox"/> Prophylactic anticoagulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/> Type 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Type 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Gestational - Diet controlled <input type="checkbox"/> Gestational - Metformin <input type="checkbox"/> Gestational - Insulin dependent
<input type="checkbox"/> Fetal growth restriction (FGR) / small for gestational age (SGA)	Details:
<input type="checkbox"/> Hypertension in pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/> Gestational hypertension <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-eclampsia → <input type="checkbox"/> Mild <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Severe
<input type="checkbox"/> Intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy (obstetric cholestasis)	Serum total bile acids (TBA):
<input type="checkbox"/> Maternal request/social indications
<input type="checkbox"/> Obesity	BMI:
<input type="checkbox"/> Prolonged pregnancy	41+/40 (book at 40 week appointment)
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduced fetal movements	Number of presentations: USS results: Gestation: EFW centile: HC: AC: Liquor/Dopplers: Kleihaur:
<input type="checkbox"/> Suspected fetal macrosomia	Gestation: EFW centile:
<input type="checkbox"/> Twin pregnancy	Latest USS Results Gestation: T1: EFW centile: Presentation: T2: EFW centile: Presentation:
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Details:

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V1 - Last reviewed 08/23



INDUCTION OF LABOUR (IOL) REQUEST AND INFORMED DECISION MAKING TOOL

006725 Indications for Induction of Labour



Purpose and intent

The purpose of this document is to provide information for clinicians determining whether the pregnant woman has an indication for an induction of labour. Recommendations in this guideline are based on evidence provided within the Queensland Clinical Guideline (QCG) Induction of Labour guideline and specific maternal condition guidelines, the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) Fourth Atlas of Healthcare Variation, as well as both local and international evidence and health service guidelines (see reference list).

Scope and target audience

This document applies to all Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) staff (permanent, temporary or casual), students on placement within the RBWH and Australian Defence Force personnel working in Women's and Newborn Services who provide clinical care for induction of labour.

Process

Induction of labour (IOL) is intended to reduce pregnancy complications and is performed when the risks of continuing the pregnancy are greater than the risks of IOL.

The risks for stillbirth or maternal morbidity must be balanced with the developmental benefits of spending more time in utero including the early term weeks, the intervention involved in the induction process, and maternal wishes.

There is growing evidence that delivery prior to 39 weeks gestation is associated with:

- Higher incidence of special care or neonatal nursery admission ¹
- Higher incidence of hospital admission within the first year of life ¹
- Higher incidence of poor childhood development at school age ²

All women should have an assessment of risk factors for stillbirth and discussion on timing of delivery between 34+0 and 36+6 weeks gestation as per the Safer Baby Bundle ³.

Planning for IOL should involve informed decision making by the woman and her partner/support people in consultation with her maternity care provider. The risks and benefits of IOL are to be discussed and written information provided to aid informed decision making and understanding of what will happen during the IOL process.

Evidence for specific indications for induction of labour

Diabetes in Pregnancy	
Definition	Type 1 or 2 diabetes mellitus in the absence of fetal concerns or poor diabetic control.
Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the Natural Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) guidelines, women with type 1 or type 2 diabetes and no other complications are recommended induction of labour between 37 – 38+6 weeks of pregnancy ⁴. • As per NICE RCOG guidelines, consider elective birth before 37 weeks for women with type 1 or type 2 diabetes who have metabolic or other maternal or fetal complications ⁴.
Review of Current Practices (Benchmarking)	<p>West Moreton Health ²</p> <p>Type 1 diabetes – IOL 37 – 38+6</p> <p>Type 2 diabetes – IOL 38 – 38+6</p> <p>South Australia Health ⁵</p> <p>Type 1 diabetes – IOL 37 – 37+6</p> <p>Type 2 diabetes – IOL 38 – 38+6</p> <p>Mater Health ⁶</p> <p>Individualised basis but generally recommended from 38 weeks and before 40 weeks.</p> <p>Mode of birth will be discussed with the woman, including the risk of shoulder dystocia in vaginal birth. Elective caesarean sections are offered for the usual indications and if estimated fetal weight is expected to be greater than 4250 g.</p> <p>New Zealand ⁷</p> <p>For women with Type 2 diabetes, continue expectant management to 39 weeks' gestation, unless there are obstetric or fetal indications for earlier birth, or diabetes complications such as vascular disease.</p> <p>The management of women with Type 1 diabetes is to be individualised.</p>
RBWH Recommendation	In the absence of obstetric or fetal indication, offer IOL by 39 weeks.

Gestational Diabetes	
Definition	Gestational diabetes (GDM) in the absence of fetal macrosomia or growth restriction or poor diabetic control Patients may be managed with diet, oral hypoglycaemic agents or insulin
Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the NICE RCOG Guidelines, Women with gestational diabetes and no evidence of fetal or maternal complications are recommended induction of labour by 40+6 weeks of pregnancy. Patients with maternal or fetal complications are advised induction of labour before 40+6 weeks gestation.

Indications for IOL - Ipswich

West Moreton Indication for Induction – Updated Aug 2023.

Indication	Gestation based on offer, recommendation, or consideration
Post dates No additional risk factors identified	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend induction of labour between 41+0 – 41+6 weeks
Advanced maternal age	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All women age 40 years or over: Recommend IOL from 39 weeks
BMI	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BMI >50 with no co-morbidities. Offer IOL from 39 weeks. <p>*Consider CTG monitoring from 38 weeks if additional risk factors are identified.</p>
GDM Well controlled with diet alone If diet controlled and no other perinatal concerns, management should be in accordance with usual maternity care for women without diabetes	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth as for post-dates. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend IOL from 41 weeks
GDM Well controlled with metformin or insulin (without additional risk factors)	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where no additional risk factors are present recommend IOL from 39+0 weeks • Where there are additional identified risk factors, consider IOL from 38 weeks
Pre-existing diabetes (Type 1 or Type 2)	Consultant led discussion to initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type 1 Diabetes – recommend IOL between 37+0 - 37+6 • Type 2 Diabetes – recommend IOL between 38+0 - 38+6
Multiple pregnancy	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing and mode of birth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncomplicated DCDA twins: Recommend IOL (or LSCS) at 37 - 37+6 weeks • Uncomplicated MCDA twins: Recommend IOL or LSCS at 36 - 36+6 weeks.
SGA Constitutionally small or small for gestational age fetus - AC between 3 rd and 10 th centile with normal umbilical artery PI	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recommend IOL from 39 weeks.

West Moreton Indication for Induction – Updated Aug 2023.

Indication	Gestation based on offer, recommendation, or consideration
FGR Late FGR defined by AC/EFW < 3 rd centile OR at least two out of three of the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC/EFW < 10th centile • Cerebroplacental ratio (CPR) < 5th centile or Umbilical A PI > 95th centile • AC/EFW crossing centiles >30 centiles on growth chart 	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If oligohydramnios (deepest pool <2 cms) or abnormal dopplers, individual plan required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recommend birth at 37 weeks at the latest • If normal liquor volume: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aim to get to 38 – 38+6 weeks if dopplers and CTG continue to remain normal, and there are no additional risk factors identified
Large for gestational age (LGA)/ Macrosomia	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth. <u>Consider the patient's parity and previous obstetric birth weight when determining if they should be offered/ recommended for an IOL.</u> <p>Consider offering IOL from 38 – 39 weeks if the risk of macrosomia is confirmed on ultrasound scan (US done from 36 weeks), if estimated fetal weights (EFW) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater than 3500 at 36 weeks • Greater than 3700 at 37 weeks • Greater than 3900 at 38 weeks: <p>Consider elective CS if EFW is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater than 4500 g in women with diabetes • Greater than 5000 g in women without diabetes
Obstetric cholestasis	Initiate shared decision-making regarding timing of birth, based on biochemistry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBA (total bile acids) 19-39 micromol/l (with no other risk factors for still birth) consider IOL by 40 weeks • TBA 40-99 micromol/l (with no other risk factors for still birth) consider IOL 38-39 weeks • TBA >100 micromol/l (low threshold for pre term delivery due to significant increase in risk of still birth from 35 weeks). <p>Given increased stillbirth rate when TBA > 100, from 35 weeks, close surveillance and consultant led birth planning should be discussed with low threshold for preterm birthing.</p>

Endorsed by K Sivanesan

Position A/Director O&G







Morning Tea

Partnerships in Stillbirth & Preterm Birth Prevention

‘Timing of Birth is the key’

David A Ellwood

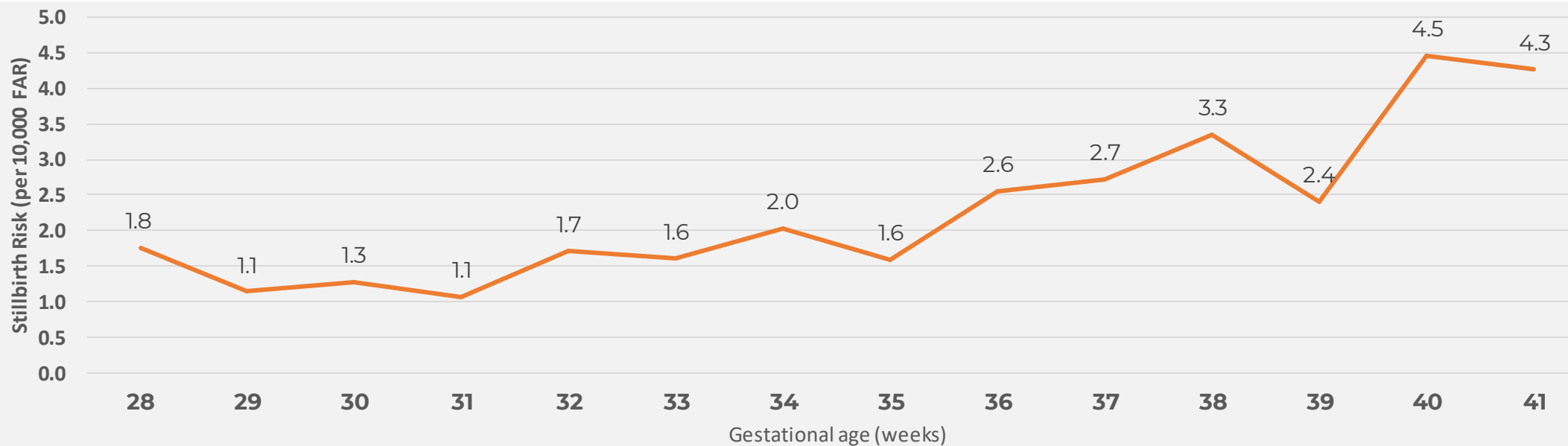
Professor of O&G, Griffith University and Director of MFM, Gold Coast Health
Co-Director of the Stillbirth CRE



Australian Stillbirth risk

By gestational week – Births in 2021 (AIHW 2023)

Fetuses at risk (FAR) is the stillbirth risk per 10,000 ongoing pregnancies



Gestation	28+0 - 28+6	29+0 - 29+6	30+0 - 30+6	31+0 - 31+6	32+0 - 32+6	33+0 - 33+6	34+0 - 34+6	35+0 - 35+6	36+0 - 36+6	37+0 - 37+6	38+0 - 38+6	39+0 - 39+6	40+0 - 40+6	41+0 - 41+6
Stillbirth risk (per 10,000)	1.8	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.6	2.6	2.7	3.3	2.4	4.5	4.3
Number of stillbirths	51	33	37	31	49	46	58	45	71	73	81	42	37	11
Number of ongoing pregnancies	289,139	288,765	288,359	287,840	287,131	286,090	284,637	281,943	277,543	268,102	242,154	174,526	83,127	25,850

Timing of Birth and Stillbirth Prevention

- Element 5 of the Safer Baby Bundle is concerned with *‘Improving decision-making around timing of birth for women with risk factors for stillbirth’*
- The Stillbirth CRE have produced a range of resources including
 - A position statement (recently updated)
 - A brochure for women on planned birth
 - A timing of birth guide (to be used at 36 weeks)
 - A decision aid for women
- The last two resources are undergoing final evaluation before release, to examine clinical utility and impact on IOL rates

Steps to assessing and managing risk factors

S

Stillbirth risk assessment in early pregnancy

T

Tests and further investigations as indicated

E

Evaluate and re-assess risk at 34 to 36+6 weeks

P

Plan for increased surveillance where indicated


S

Support informed, shared decision-making about timing of birth


Let's Talk Timing – Resources for women


- Given in the first half of pregnancy
- Should always be given with accompanying conversation




 **When will my baby be born?**

 **What is a planned birth?**

 **Every Week Counts**

 **Why might you need a **planned birth**?**

 **Talking it through and deciding what is best for you and baby**

 **Remember**

#LetsTalkTiming

Let's Talk Timing of Birth



Information to help you talk with your midwife or doctor about the best timing for your baby's birth.

Scan here to watch a video summarising the information in this brochure.



Safer Baby
WORKING TOGETHER TO REDUCE STILLBIRTH

Stillbirth
CENTRE OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care


AUSTRALIAN
PERINATAL BIRTH
PREVENTION
ALLIANCE

Inclusion & Exclusion Criteria

For all women with a singleton pregnancy **without** any medical or pregnancy complication which would already have identified management pathway or alter management

This is for women who are;

- No risk factors present
- High BMI
- Advancing Age
- Conceived using IVF
- Smoke or use drugs & alcohol throughout pregnancy
- Nulliparous



Pre-existing conditions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pre-existing diabetes• Previous stillbirth• Pre-existing hypertension• Other pre-existing maternal medical conditions (e.g. antiphospholipid antibody syndrome, renal impairment)	Requires obstetric and/or medical management and individual clinical assessment. Refer to established policies/guidelines.
Pregnancy complications	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gestational diabetes• Multiple pregnancy• Fetal growth restriction or small for gestational age• Pre-eclampsia• Fetal anomaly• Obstetric complications• Recurrent decreased fetal movements	Requires obstetric and/or maternal fetal medicine management and individual clinical assessment. Refer to established policies/guidelines.
All other pregnancies proceed to guide	

Timing of Birth Guide

Which of these apply?	0	1	
Having your first baby	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Age	<input type="checkbox"/> <35	<input type="checkbox"/> 35-39	
Above a healthy body weight (Body Mass Index, BMI)	<input type="checkbox"/> <25	<input type="checkbox"/> 25-29	
Smoking cigarettes at beyond 20 weeks of pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Using alcohol and/or other drugs throughout pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Having this baby conceived through IVF	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
TOTAL SCORE			
Level 1	Level 2		
Stillbirth chance at 37-42 weeks			
Score 0-2	Score 3-6		
It is recommended that you wait for your labour to start on its own up until 41 weeks of pregnancy	Have a discussion about whether you should plan to have your baby once you reach 39 weeks of pregnancy		
For women in Level 2 and Level 3 who choose to wait rather than have an elective caesarean, increased fetal surveillance may be considered. This may take various forms and resources. Women should be reminded to report changes in fetal movements.			
Gestational age	Week 37	Week 38	Week 39
Level 1	<i>Stillbirth risk per 10,000 births at each gestational age to be confirmed following move more advanced data set in 2024</i>		
Level 2			
Level 3			

Timing of Birth Guide

Which of these apply?	Points			
	0	1	2	3
Having your first baby	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
Age	<input type="checkbox"/> <35	<input type="checkbox"/> 35-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 40-44	<input type="checkbox"/> 45+
Above a healthy body weight (Body Mass Index, BMI)	<input type="checkbox"/> <25	<input type="checkbox"/> 25-29	<input type="checkbox"/> 30-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 40+
Smoking cigarettes at beyond 20 weeks of pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/> No			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Using alcohol and/or other drugs throughout pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Having this baby conceived through IVF	<input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
TOTAL SCORE				
Level 1	Level 2		Level 3	
Stillbirth chance at 37-42 weeks				
Score 0-2		Score 3-6		Score >7

Decision Aid (DA)

- Resource designed for women to help to facilitate discussion between the woman and her midwife and/or doctor about:
 - Timing of Birth
 - Making a choice about spontaneous vs planned birth

DRAFT: Not for public distribution

#LetsTalkTiming

Decision Aid for Timing of Birth

This resource will be refined based on feedback following use across maternity services in 2023. Please send any feedback to stillbirthcre@mater.uq.edu.au.

Preparing for birth and decision making

Are you:

- More than 34 weeks pregnant?
- Well and healthy without any issues such as diabetes, high blood pressure or other pregnancy complications?
- Wondering when is the best time for your baby to be born?

Most women wait for labour to start on its own. However, some women may need to have their baby earlier and have a planned birth to reduce the chance of stillbirth. This Decision Aid has been developed to help you make a decision about when is the best time to have your baby.

On the following page you will read more about a Timing of Birth Guide. This Guide has been developed to help you understand your chance of stillbirth. Remember, the chance of stillbirth is very low for most women. Ask your midwife or doctor about any information you don't understand. All questions are welcome.

Safer Baby

Stillbirth CENTRE OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

Reducing preterm and early term births

- The national PTB/ETB prevention initiative has been rolled out
- There has been much discussion about how TOB advice is managed
- A joint position statement on TOB has been developed
- An education program on TOB has been developed jointly between the Stillbirth CRE and the APTBA



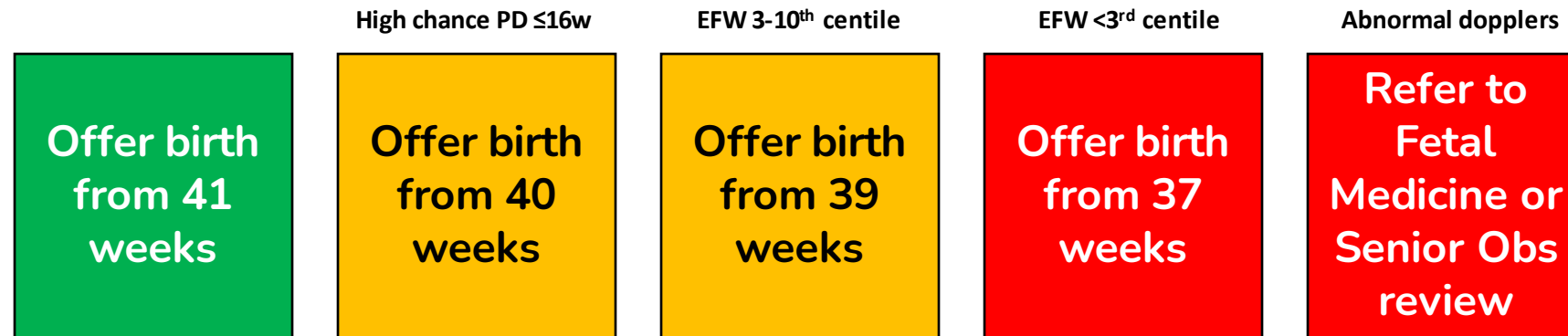
Joint Position Statement on TOB

- There are many medical and pregnancy complications where early planned birth by induction of labour or Caesarean section is necessary and may be beneficial to the woman and her baby, and prevent stillbirth. *However, for most women planned birth can be delayed safely until 39 weeks or beyond, or to await spontaneous onset of labour.*
- *In the absence of a reason for early planned birth, women should be encouraged to continue their pregnancy until 39 weeks or later to enable the baby to develop fully.* Birth before this time cannot normally be justified for social reasons alone.

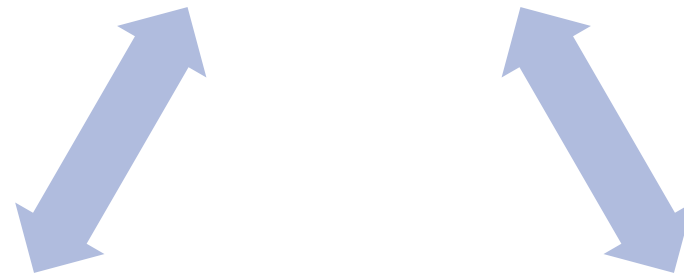
Timing of Birth (ToB) assessment around 36 weeks

Routinely completed for women who are moderate or high chance of placental dysfunction

Run Timing of Birth assessment ($\geq 36/40$)



SBB TOB Guide



Tommy's Decision
Support Tool

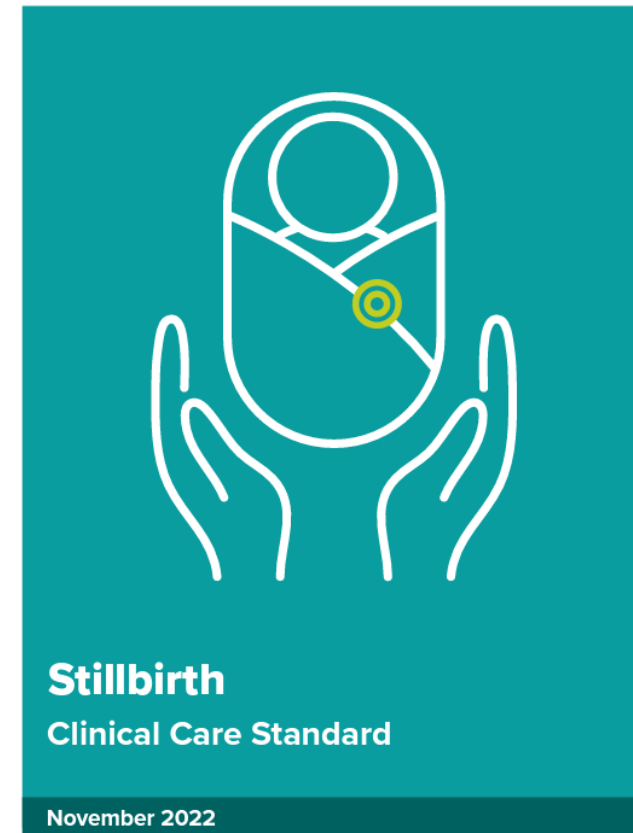
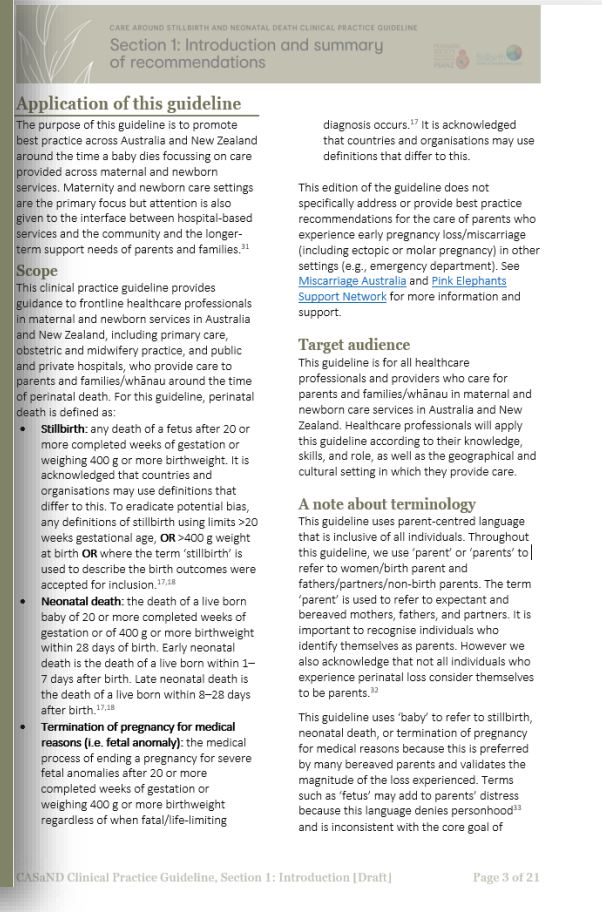
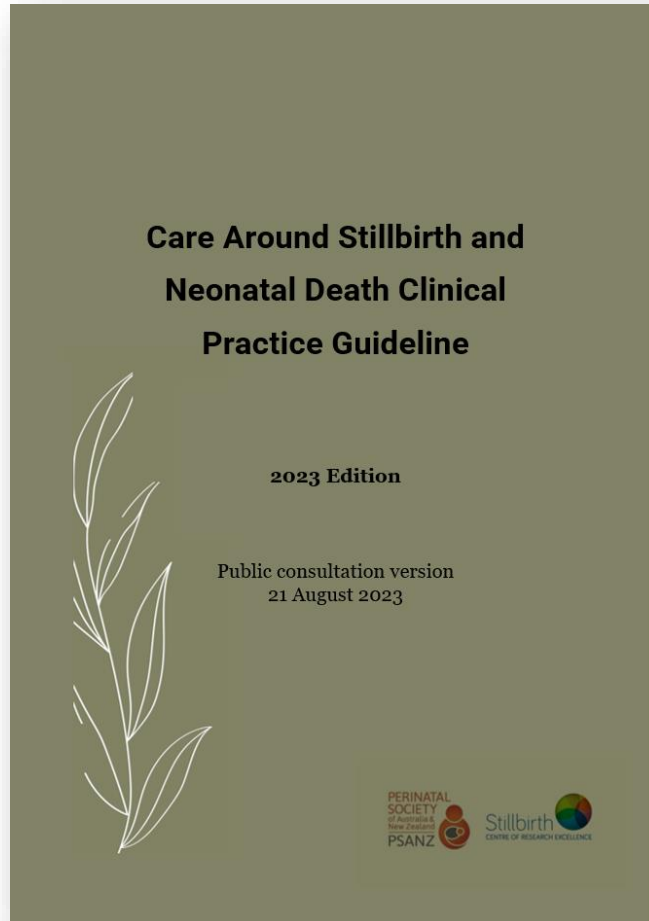


Pre-term/early
term birth
prevention

Conclusions

- We believe that we can get decision-making around TOB right, and reduce both stillbirth, and preterm/early term birth
- The TOB recommendations using the Tommy's Decision Support Tool are reasonably in line with Element 5 of SBB
- The challenge is to work out if and how the SBB TOB guide integrates with 12 weeks screening and subsequent scans
- The goal of all programs must be to improve pregnancy outcomes overall, and minimize harm in achieving this goal

Care Around Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Clinical Practice Guideline, 2024



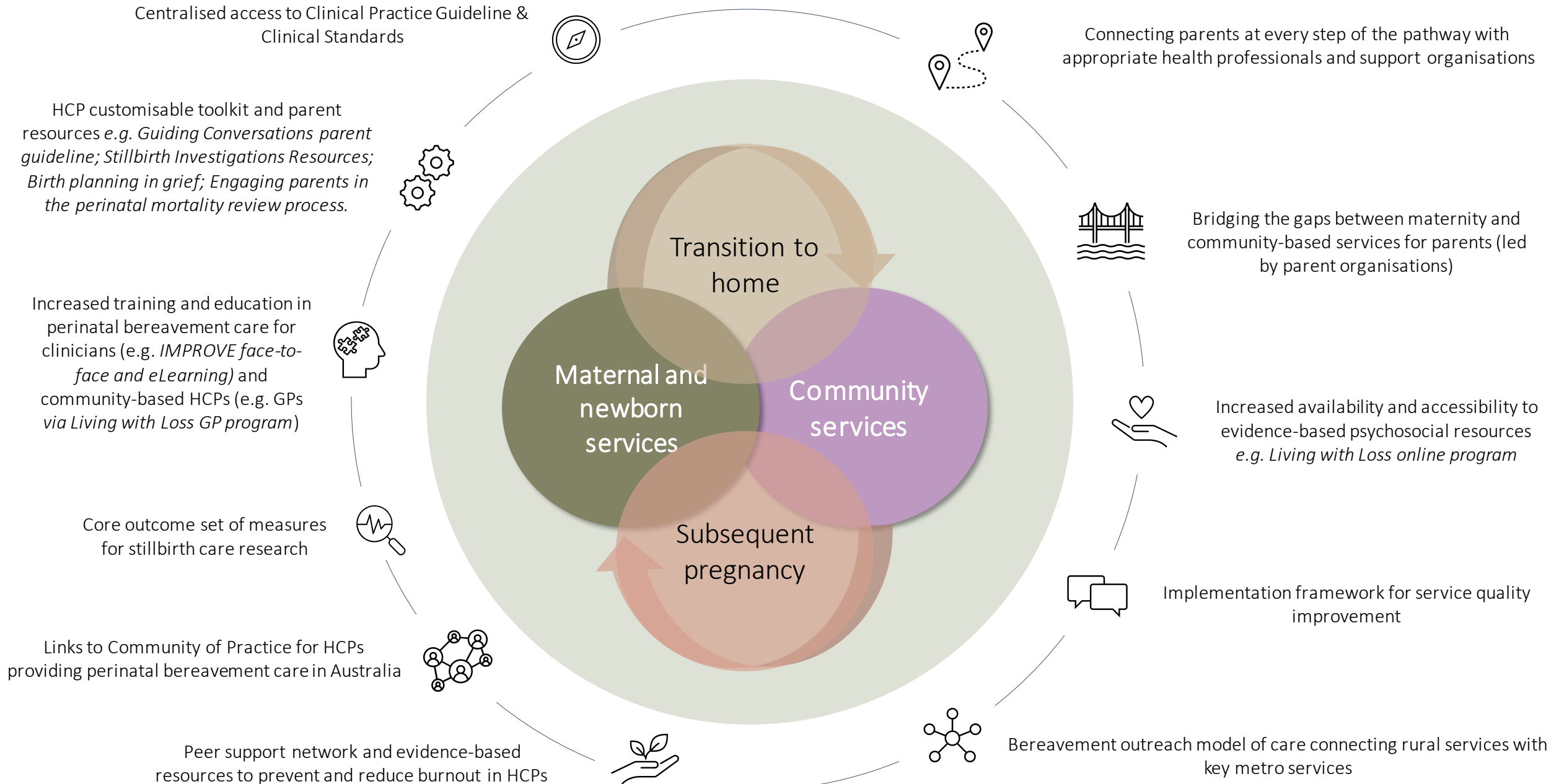
Approaches to Culturally-Safe Care

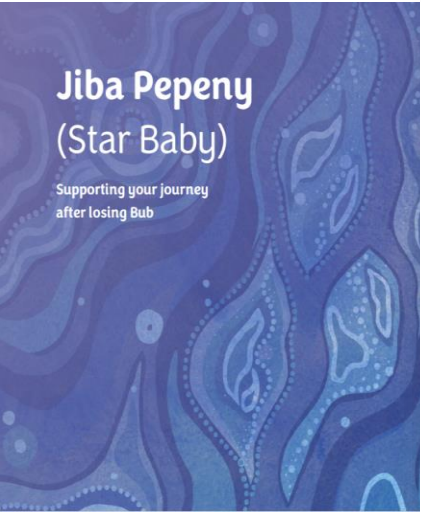
Evidence-Based Recommendation 2.13 (moderate confidence) Care must be appropriate to parent's cultural, religious and/or spiritual needs. Healthcare professionals should:

- Recognise that parents and family/whānau come from a wide range of backgrounds and acknowledge diversity within and between cultural groups.
- Avoid cultural stereotypes and culture-based assumptions.
- Be aware of and responsive to individual, cultural, religious and/or spiritual approaches to death and expressions of grief and loss.



Guiding framework to optimise care for bereaved families





Hard Yarns

Yarns about tests after Bub is born.

After Bub is born, there will be some hard yarns with your health care team about what's next with Bub.

Health care staff will talk about 'investigations' for Bub. This can sound scary but it just means there are some tests that can be done for Bub if you are hoping to find answers to why Bub passed away. Some of these tests are pretty easy where they look at the placenta. Other tests are more invasive, like an autopsy where they look more closely at Bub's body. These are some of the hardest decisions families find when they've lost Bub.

Don't be afraid to speak up. This is your bub and you make the decisions.

Your culture and ways of knowing, being and doing is important and valued in this journey.

"I'm a proud Wirgala mother and it was important for me to return my Bub to Country, whole and perfect, just as she was. I chose not to have any investigations at all for Bub, it was my family's choice, and we felt strong in that decision."

22

Perinatal palliative care plan template

Information for the care team

- Names of parents, baby, other significant family/whānau and a business of pregnancy journey and value-driven goals of care
- Names and contact information for key care team members
- One of a universal identifier (e.g. baby's) to indicate that a baby is

Care of the mother (Continuum: pregnancy, birth, postnatal)

Antenatal planning including:

- individualised childbirth classes
- antepartum care scheduling: what, when, where, who
- timing and mode of birth
- parent consent: copies for the experience of both (people) plans for pain management, cutting of the umbilical cord
- parent wishes for fetal heart rate assessment during labour if it occurs
- resuscitation consent (or not)

Postnatal planning including:

- immediate postpartum care: where, what, time
- postnatal parental bonding: parenting, holding, settling, breastfeeding consent
- material self care after delivery
- family/whānau care

Care of the newborn (Public/other care plan)

- Care for the baby, specifying a focus on:
 - comfort care (eg. goals, warmth, hydration, feeding)
 - medical stabilisation (eg., desire for surgery to be done) (eg. limitations to the degree of intervention and goals)
- Description of parent and family/whānau plans for the first 24 to 48 hours (eg. family/whānau members, special parent/brother/sister, feeding plan (and any limitations due to condition))
- Role of lactation consultant in breastfeeding/breastmilk

Plans for additional diagnostic testing (and blood for genetic testing) if available

- Symptom management if comfort-focused newborn care will be provided
- If medical evaluation is planned, location of ongoing newborn care members discussed

Information for Health Care Professionals Seeking Parental Consent for Postmortem Investigations of a Stillborn or Neonatal Death

Discussing postmortem investigations with parents

The death of a baby is devastating for parents and their family. Often the death is unexpected, and the parents are confronted with the shock of losing their baby, as well as the overwhelming emotions that follow. Sensitivity and compassion are critically important when providing information to parents around the death of a baby. This resource aims to provide guidance to health care professionals when approaching bereaved parents to discuss postmortem investigations. Each hospital should have its own policy and procedures regarding parental consent for autopsy and other investigations. This policy should be followed.

Why is it important to offer bereaved parents the option of a postmortem investigation?

Provision of information on why postmortem investigations are performed will help parents to decide. The primary reason for postmortem investigations is to understand why the baby has died. The investigations may confirm medical reasons for the death or uncover new information, which may help parents to understand what happened and may be useful in planning care for future pregnancies. Information from investigations after a perinatal death can also help health care services and researchers understand why babies sometimes die. A full investigation does not always provide an answer as to why a baby died, but does offer the best opportunity to get this information, and may rule out some possible causes.

Parents should be given time to consider the information before making their decision.

Understanding what happened to your baby

Your healthcare team is here for you at this very difficult time. We are so sorry for your loss.

Understanding what happened to bub





When my baby died, I had no idea what I needed to know, or what was possible. It was such an overwhelming time. What I really needed was to know the options I had so that we could make decisions that were right for us.



Guiding Conversations

with your health care team
when your baby dies



research

Stillbirth CRE Coordinating Centre

Partners and Collaborators



Managing the woman at risk of preterm birth

A case-based discussion

GP Forum Brisbane

9th March 2024

Dr Chris Lehner

MD, PhD, FRANZCOG, CMFM

Queensland Clinical Lead – National Preterm Birth Prevention Program



Improvement



Transparency



Patient Safety



Clinician Leadership



Innovation



AUSTRALIAN
Preterm Birth
Prevention
ALLIANCE



Queensland
Government

Sally Cooper

35 yo Para 1

Hx spontaneous preterm birth at 32 weeks

Follow up appointment 6 weeks postpartum

Which potential modifiable risk factors should be screened for and addressed prior to a subsequent pregnancy?

Modifiable risk factors for PTB

- Chlamydia trachomatis OR 2.28
- Bacterial vaginosis OR 2.19
- Asymptomatic bacteruria OR 2.10
- Very high physical activity in pregnancy OR 2.10
- Domestic violence OR 1.91
- Recreational drug use aRR 1.60
- High BMI 35-40 aOR 1.33 >40 aOR 1.83
- Smoking aOR 1.70 PTB < 32 weeks
- Unemployment aOR 1.52
- Conception <6 months postpartum aOR ≥ 1.20

Goodfellow et al. BJOG 2021

Page 7 - QCG Preterm Labour and Birth

Queensland Clinical Guideline: Preterm labour and birth

2 Risk assessment

The cause of spontaneous preterm labour remains unidentified in up to half of all cases.¹³ Although many factors have been associated with an increased risk of spontaneous PTB³, there is a relative paucity of high level research.^{13,14} The majority of women with traditional risk factors will not experience PTB and of those women who do, many have no identifiable risk factors. Whether or not some risk factors are markers for other conditions and/or other risk factors is unknown.

Table 2. Risk factors associated with preterm birth

Aspect	Consideration
Maternal characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age of woman^{3,5}: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Younger than 20 years ◦ Older than 40 years • Women who smoke during pregnancy⁵: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 13.6% babies are born preterm compared to 8.1% of babies whose mothers did not smoke • Women residing in rural and remote areas⁵: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 13.5% babies are born preterm compared to 8.4% in major cities • Risk of PTB based on ethnicity compared to Caucasian women¹⁵: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ African American women: increased (OR 2.0, 95% CI 1.8 to 2.2)¹⁶ ◦ East African women: increased (aOR 1.55, 95% CI 1.27 to 1.90)¹⁷ ◦ Asian or Hispanic women: no significant difference¹⁷ • Women who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander⁵: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 14.2% babies are born preterm compared to 8.5% of babies born to non-Indigenous women • Late or no antenatal care • Lack of continuity of care • Low socio-economic status • High or low body mass index (BMI)
Medical and pregnancy conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple birth⁵: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 66% of twins ◦ 98.2% of all other multiples (triplets and higher order) • Presence of fetal fibronectin (fFN) in the vaginal secretions • Short cervical length¹⁸: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Previous PTB recurrence risk related to gestational age of prior PTB¹⁹ ◦ Approximately 30% of women who give birth prematurely in a prior pregnancy will give birth before 37 weeks in a subsequent pregnancy⁶ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extremely preterm: 0.5%, aOR 2.0, (95% CI 1.6 to 2.3)¹⁹ ▪ Very preterm: 6.8%, aOR 3.0, (95% CI 2.9 to 3.2)¹⁹ ▪ Moderately preterm: 37.7%, aOR 2.2, (95% CI 2.2 to 2.3)¹⁹ • Genital tract infections¹: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Bacterial vaginosis²⁰ risk of PTB doubled • Urinary tract infections²¹ • Vaginal bleeding²¹ • Assisted reproduction²¹ associated with two-fold risk of PTB • Preterm prelabour rupture of membranes (PPROM) • Surgical procedures involving the cervix²² • Uterine anomalies²¹ • Polyhydramnios/oligohydramnios • Chronic medical conditions • Acute medical conditions (e.g. preeclampsia, antepartum haemorrhage)

You meet Sally again 2 years later in her subsequent pregnancy

- 16 weeks booking-in visit

What can you offer Sally to reduce her risk of recurrent preterm birth?



Use of vaginal progesterone if you have a prior history of spontaneous preterm birth.

THE LANCET



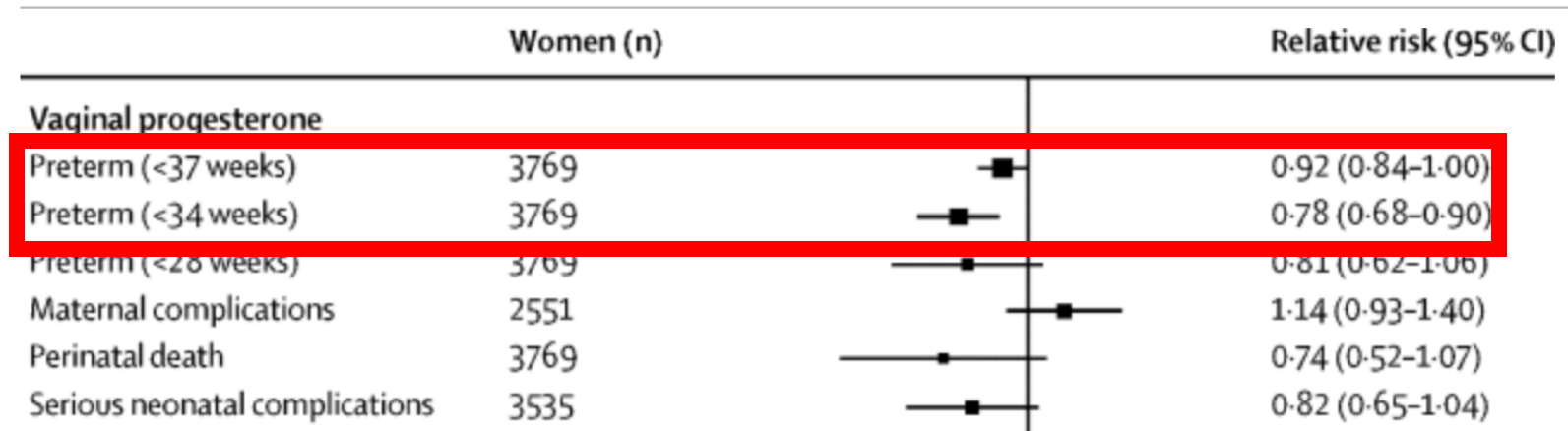
Volume 397, Issue 10280, 27 March–2 April 2021, Pages 1183-1194

Articles

Evaluating Progestogens for Preventing Preterm birth International Collaborative (EPPPIC): meta-analysis of individual participant data from randomised controlled trials

The EPPPIC Group*

Vaginal Progesterone – singleton pregnancies



How about cerclage?

Yes ... if the cervix is short!

Cerclage – short cervix, Hx spont PTB

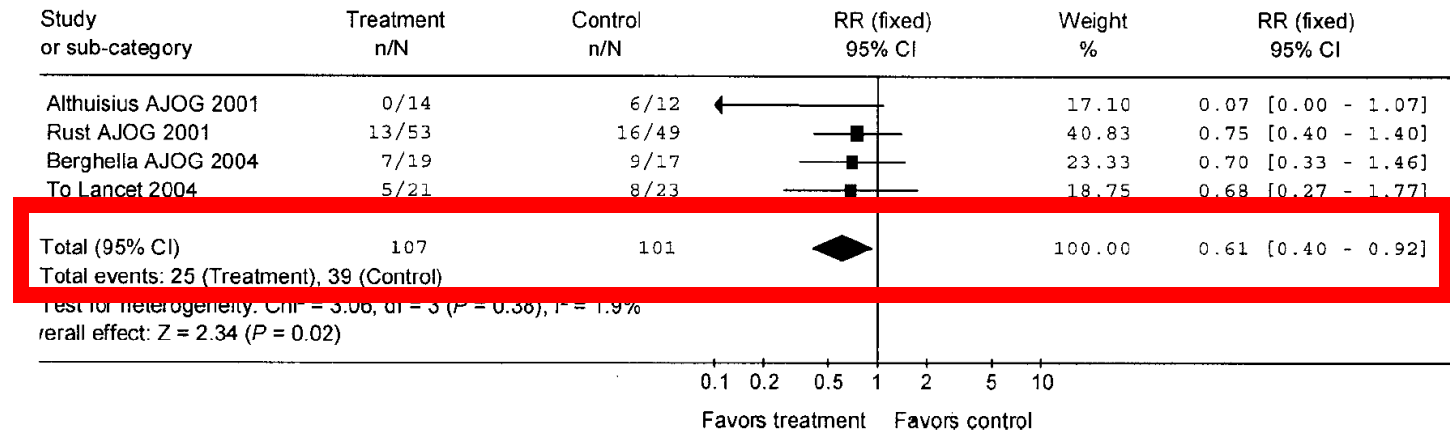


Fig. 3. Meta-analysis of cerclage for preterm birth at less than 35 weeks: singleton gestations in women with a prior preterm birth at 16–36 weeks.

Berghella. Cerclage for Short Cervix: A Meta-Analysis. Obstet Gynecol 2005.

Sally is keen to avoid surgery ... and you read this!!

Review > [Am J Obstet Gynecol](#). 2022 Sep;227(3):440-461.e2.
doi: 10.1016/j.ajog.2022.04.023. Epub 2022 Apr 20.

Does vaginal progesterone prevent recurrent preterm birth in women with a singleton gestation and a history of spontaneous preterm birth? Evidence from a systematic review and meta-analysis

[Agustin Conde-Agudelo](#)¹, [Roberto Romero](#)²

What can you offer Sally at this appointment?

Measure the cervix!!

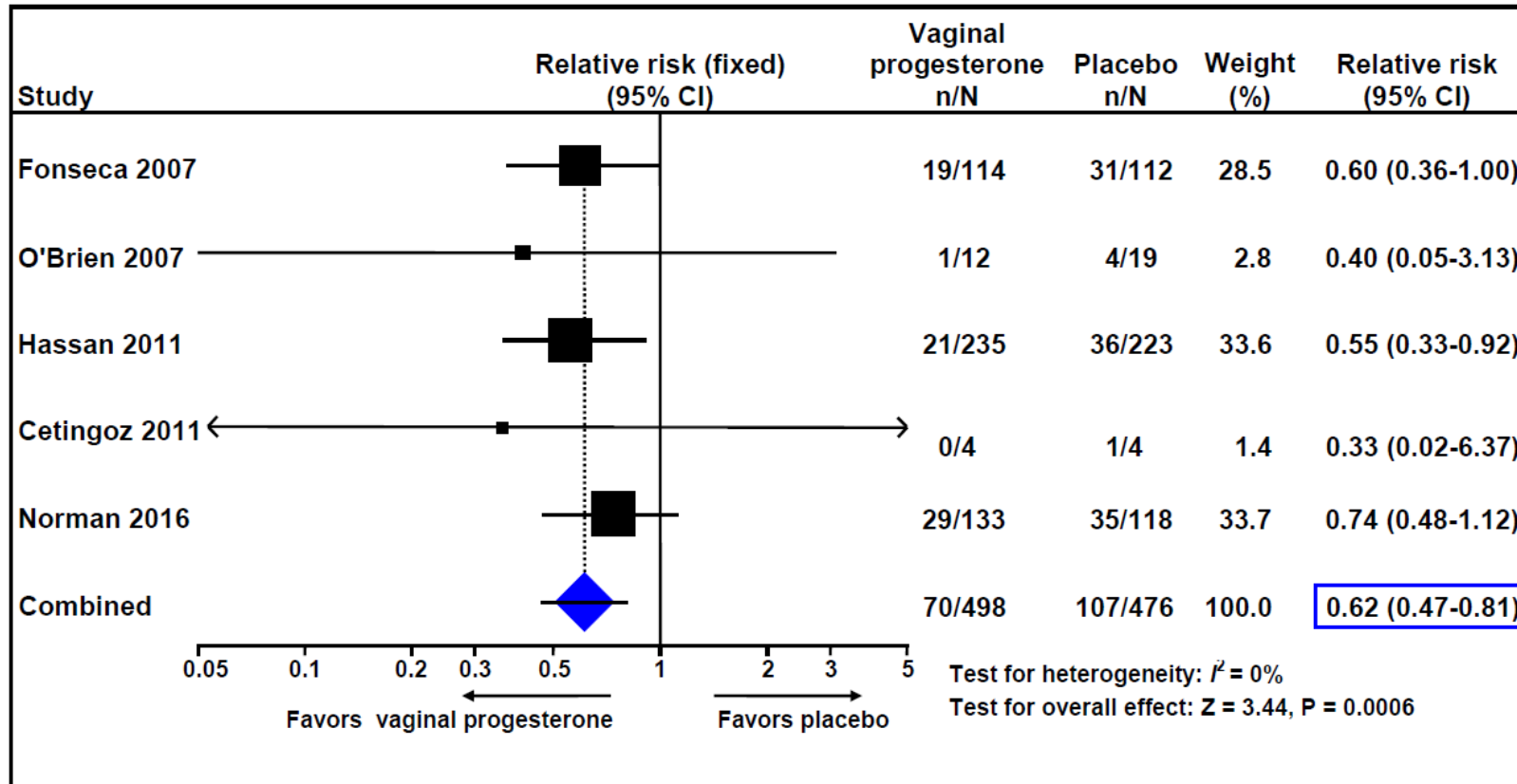
Why?

It's short!! 21 mm TV

What to do next??

Vaginal Progesterone for short cervix PTB <33 weeks

Romero et al. AJOG 2018





GUIDELINES

ISUOG Practice Guidelines: role of ultrasound in the prediction of spontaneous preterm birth

Recommendation

- Although evidence is still conflicting, in women with singleton gestation and prior spontaneous PTB, treatment with vaginal progesterone every night from 16 to 36 weeks, or surveillance and treatment in those with CL ≤ 25 mm, should be considered (**GOOD PRACTICE POINT**).

If this was Sally's first pregnancy and the cervix was short ...

When should a cerclage be considered?

First up or if cervix continues to shorten on vaginal progesterone?

Cerclage first? The evidence says NO ...

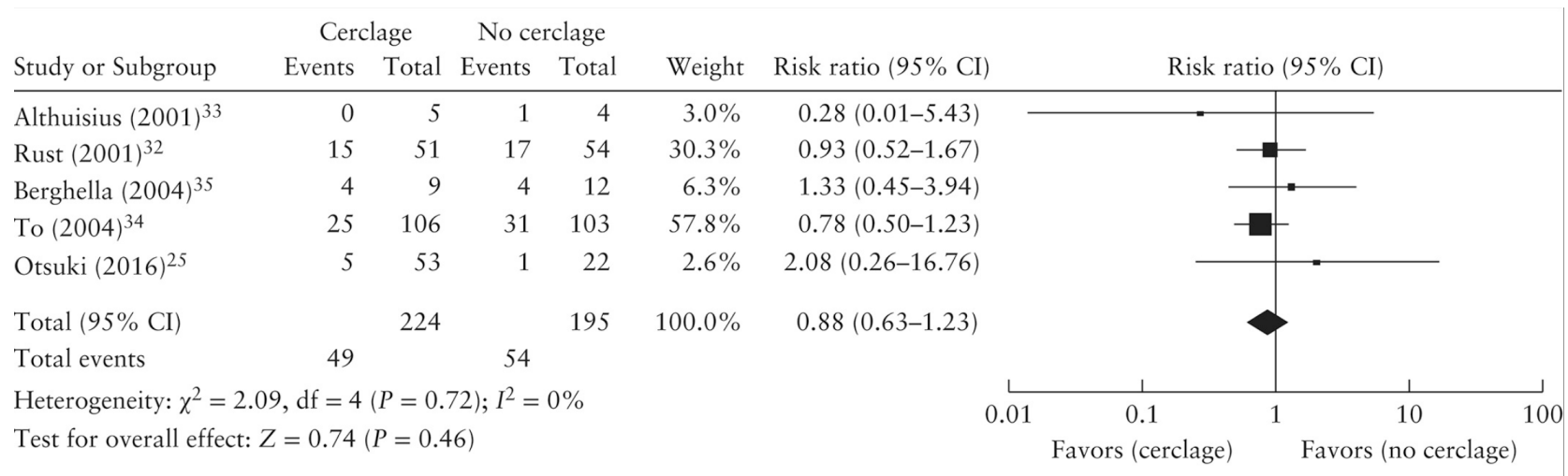
Review > [Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol.](#) 2017 Nov;50(5):569-577. doi: 10.1002/uog.17457.

Epub 2017 Oct 5.

Cerclage for sonographic short cervix in singleton gestations without prior spontaneous preterm birth: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials using individual patient-level data

V Berghella ¹, A Ciardulli ², O A Rust ³, M To ⁴, K Otsuki ⁵, S Althuisius ⁶, K H Nicolaides ⁷,
A Roman ¹, G Saccone ⁸

5 RCTs, 419 asymptomatic singleton pregnancies with TVS-CL < 25 mm and no prior spontaneous PTB



So you decide to start vaginal Progesterone ...

... what should your prescription look like??

Discharge location:

Hospital prescription

RBWH PHARMACY DEPARTMENT
LEVEL 1 NHB BUTTERFIELD STREET
HERSTON QLD 4006
Phone: 07 36481111
0050180J

Ward/clinic _____ Discharge date: / / Time: am/pm

UR number: 123456 Ward: MOPD
 Name: Mary Smith
 Address: 11 Correct Lane
 Herston QLD DoB: 01/07/1995
 Fill in or attach the patient label

Patient's Medicare number _____ Patient's Ref number _____

Pharmaceutical benefits entitlement or DVA number _____

Print patient's name _____
 Tick appropriate box (one scheme only per form)
 Patient Weight _____

PBS Safety Net entitlement cardholder Concessional or dependant, RPBS beneficiary or PBS Safety Net concession cardholder PBS RPBS Chemo Access

Drug name and form	Strength	Dose, route and frequency	Quantity	Rpts	Supplier Y/N	Approval number if required
Progesterone Pessary	200mg	200mg PV nocte	42	3		11835
FOR EDUCATION PURPOSES ONLY						

Streamline Code
11835 (Quant 42, Rpts 3)

Drug hypersensitivities _____
 DO NOT LEAVE BOX BLANK
 If patient has no allergies enter N/A in box.
 NKDA
 Turn over for privacy notice

Prescriber's name: Dr Jones Prescriber number: 000009
 Prescriber's type: MO Pager number: 46663 Clinical unit: Obstetrics
 Signature: _____ Date: 01 / 01 / 2000

I certify that I have received this medication and the information relating to any entitlement to free or concessional pharmaceutical benefits is not false or misleading.
 Date of supply _____ Patient's or agent's signature _____ Agent's address _____
 P8041 2008

Authority required items ONLY (refer to approved authority indications in Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits)
 (Authority prescription applications 24 hour service PBS 1800 888 333 RPBS 1800 552 580)

Disease or purpose(s) for which benefit required or clinical justification for use of item _____

Next visit: GP/outpatients in _____ (days/weeks/months) Pharmacy recommendation: _____
 Patient's weight (paediatric): _____ kg
 Patient's age if child: _____
 Did an ADR occur during hospitalisation? No Yes
 If YES, Drug: _____ Medication chart done: No Yes
 Details: _____ Medication counselling by: _____
 _____ Profile checked by: _____
 _____ Dispensed by: 1. _____ 2. _____

GP Prescription – Streamlined Authority

Acknowledgement Dr Meg Cairns

Authority item:	Progesterone 200mg Pessaries 1 Before bed.		
Quantity:	<input type="text" value="42"/>	Repeats:	<input type="text" value="3"/>
PBS listed Indications for Authority:	Indication Prevention of preterm birth		
Indication detail:	Clinical criteria: * Patient must have a singleton pregnancy, AND * Patient must have at least one of: (i) short cervix (mid-trimester sonographic cervix no greater than 25 mm), (ii) a history of spontaneous preterm birth, AND * The treatment must be administered no earlier than at 16 weeks gestation.		
PBS Notes:	No increase in the maximum quantity or number of units may be authorised. No increase in the maximum number of repeats may be authorised.		
Indication for this authority:	Prevention of preterm birth		
Approval No:	<input type="text" value="11835"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Previous authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Send to patient
			<input type="button" value="Lookup Ix"/>

Despite good compliance with vaginal Progesterone pessaries, the cervix continues to shorten ...

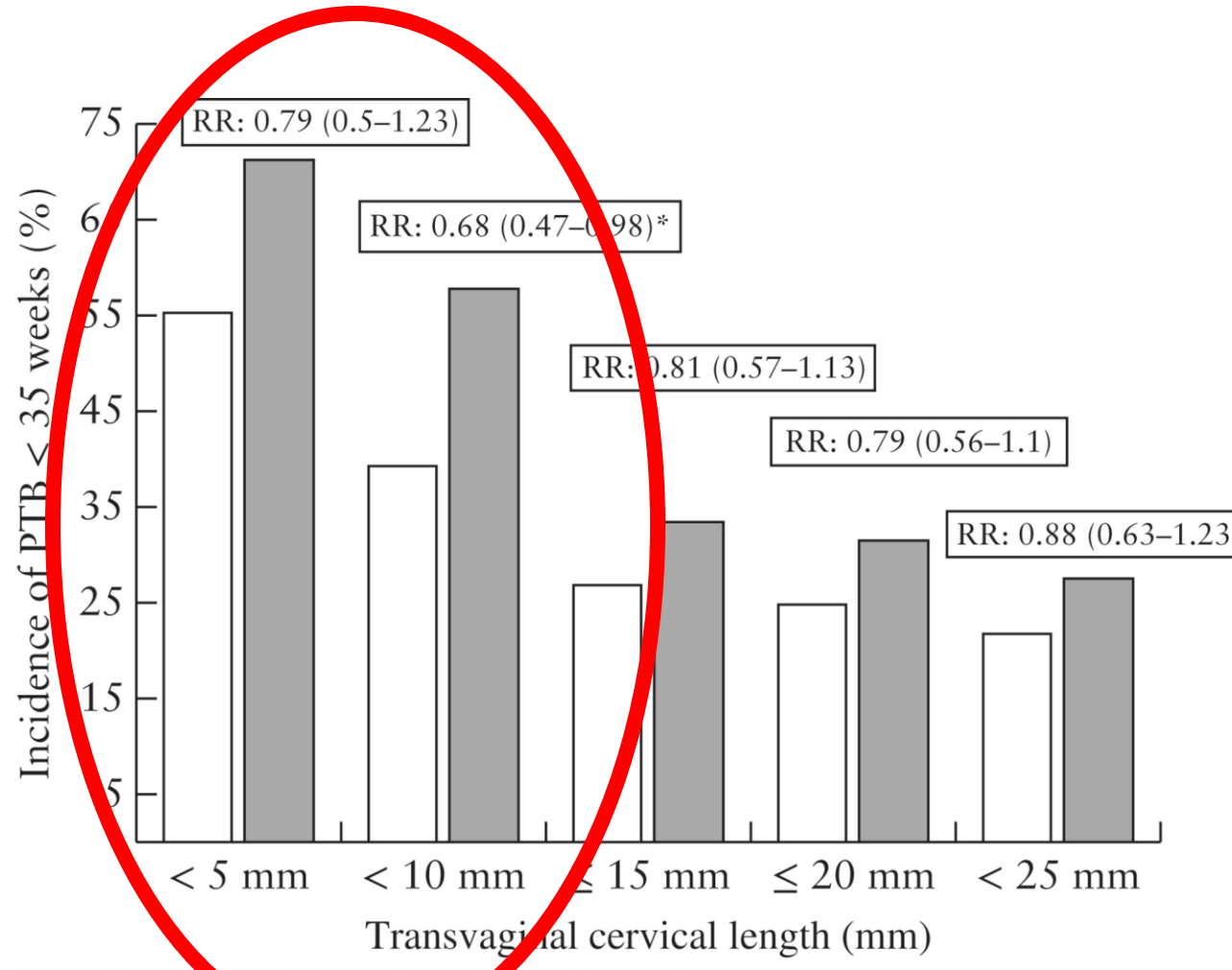


Frequency of CL-monitoring?

Cerclage yes or no?

When?

Berghella et al. UOG 2017





GUIDELINES

ISUOG Practice Guidelines: role of ultrasound in the prediction of spontaneous preterm birth

Recommendations

- After initiating progesterone treatment, follow-up every 1–2 weeks up to 24 weeks can detect further shortening of the cervix (**GOOD PRACTICE POINT**).
- Cervical cerclage can be considered in women whose cervix shortens to < 10 mm despite being on progesterone (**GRADE OF RECOMMENDATION: C**).

Summary Progesterone vs Cerclage

1. No history of spontaneous preterm birth:

- Routine cervical length screening between 16-24 weeks
- Start natural vaginal progesterone if TV-CL \leq 25 mm
- Consider cerclage if cervix shortens to $<$ 10 mm on progesterone

2. History of spontaneous preterm birth:

Cerclage if cervix short $<$ 25 mm

Progesterone PV nocte from 16-36 weeks or

CL-monitoring and treatment once cervix short

Fetal Growth Restriction

David Ellwood

Griffith University & Gold Coast Health

A decorative graphic in the bottom-left corner, consisting of a circular shape made of overlapping, semi-transparent colored segments in shades of green, yellow, orange, blue, and purple, matching the logo in the top-right.

Risk Factors for FGR

- KB is a 23 years old primigravida with a BMI of 35
- She has no significant PMH, but is smoking 5-10 cigarettes a day
- Her menstrual dates are uncertain but a dating scan at 8 weeks give an EDB of 17th February 2024
- How many risk factors for FGR or stillbirth does she have?

Screening for FGR

What can be done by way of investigations to improve the detection for FGR?

- Combined first trimester screening (CFTS) includes PAPP-A, an early measure of placental function
- Morphology ultrasound
- Fetal growth scans at 24, 28, 32 & 36 weeks

Diagnosis of FGR

Normal CFTS, except the PAPP-A is 0.38 MoM

Normal morphology scan.

A 28 weeks scan shows an EFW on the 10th centile, with normal Dopplers and amniotic fluid volume.

- What next?

Definitions of FGR

SGA (less than 10th or less than 3rd centile) v FGR?

- the small healthy baby or a baby whose growth is restricted by maternal, placental or fetal factors.

Early onset FGR v Late onset FGR

- Early onset can be fetal/maternal causes, may have abnormal Dopplers, and may not go to term
- Late onset usually due to placental dysfunction, later signs of slowing growth, reduced amniotic fluid. Timing of birth is usually at term.

Management of FGR 1

Her next scan at 32 weeks shows growth velocity has fallen and both the AC and EFW are now on the 5th centile

The fetal Dopplers (UA, MCA and DV) are all normal, as is the amniotic fluid volume

- What next?

Management of FGR 2

Scenario 1: Serial scans show growth continuing between the 3rd & 10th centiles with normal Dopplers.

Scenario 2: By 36 weeks fetal growth is < 3rd centile and the UA shows an increased PI (95th centile)

Scenario 3: The 34 weeks scan shows fetal growth is less than the 1st centile (EFW 1700g) and the UA Doppler shows absent end-diastolic flow.

Timing of Birth in FGR (ISUOG Guidelines 2020)



In late FGR, delivery should be based on biophysical assessments or maternal indications.

At any gestational age, deliver if:

- Abnormal CTG
- Maternal indication (e.g. severe pre-eclampsia, HELLP syndrome) or obstetric emergency requiring delivery
- Absent or reversed UA-EDF

36 to 37⁺⁶ weeks: deliver if UA-PI >95th centile or AC/EFW <3rd centile

38 to 39⁺⁰ weeks: deliver if evidence of cerebral blood flow redistribution or other features of FGR

In the absence of contraindications, induction of labor is indicated. During labor, continuous fetal heart rate monitoring is recommended



Questions?



Panel Discussion

Dr Meg Cairns
Dr Christoph Lehner
David Ellwood



Improvement



Transparency



Patient Safety



Clinician Leadership



Innovation

Summary & questions



Improvement



Transparency



Patient Safety



Clinician Leadership



Innovation

Queensland Preterm Birth Prevention Program - GP forum (Post Education Survey)



Thank you for attending the Queensland Preterm Birth Prevention Program GP Forum

Educational Activities (EA) 1.5 CPD Hours

Reviewing Performance (RP) 2 CPD Hours



pretermbirthprevention@health.qld.gov.au

Networking lunch

