

What changes can we make that will result in improvement? The evidence...

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The Telegraph

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Infections after caesarean birth 'higher' than other operations

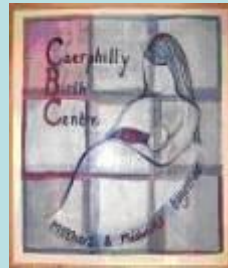
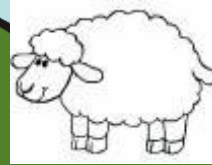
One in ten women who give birth by caesarean section develop an infection, a study has found, much higher than similar operations.





1000 LIVES O FYWYDAU

Making patient safety a priority



Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
Setting standards to improve women's health

Transforming Maternity Services mini-collaborative – everyone and anyone in maternity services in Wales

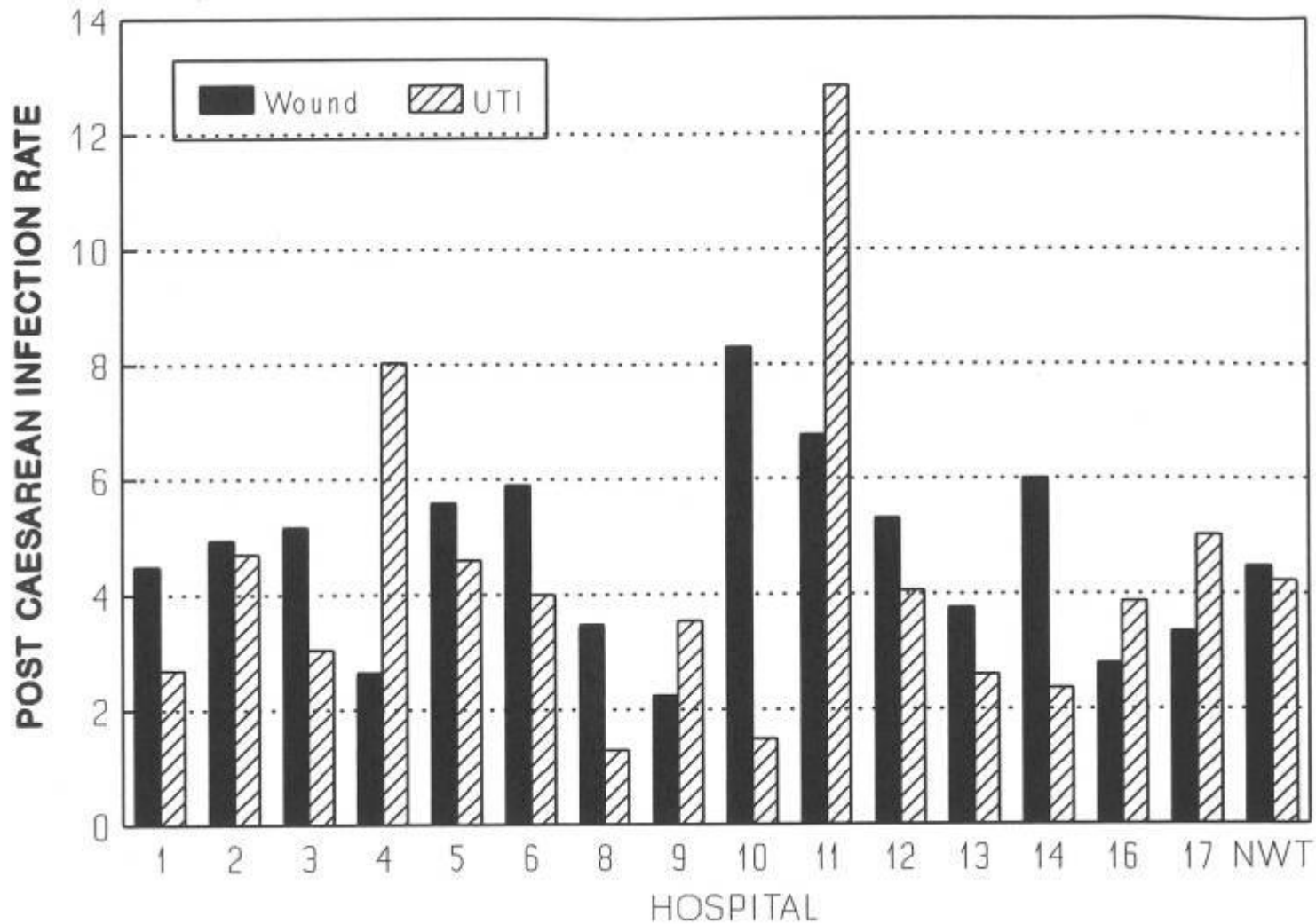


The world of butts...

- But, infections are inevitable
- But, my women are higher risk
- But, it's about surgical technique
- But, it's since LMWH came in
- But, it's not mine
- But...
- But...



Variations in practice



But it matters...

- Increased LOS
- Increased cost
- Stress / distress
- Morbidity / mortality

Before you start, what are your 'top tips' to prevent infection?

- Write yours here!

Before you start, what are your 'top tips' to prevent infection? Mine were...

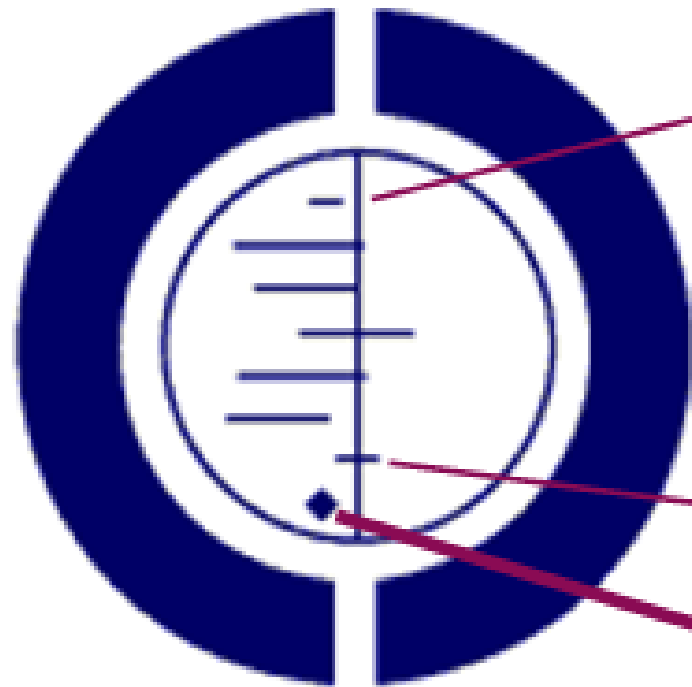
- Avoid a caesarean section
- Surgical technique
- Post-op wound care

But what do we do that is wrong?

- Cause abrasions during shaving?
- Don't wait for skin prep to dry before wiping it off?
- Cut exactly where it is hot and sweaty?
- Rip and ignore bleeding vessels?
- Leave juniors unsupervised?
- Pay lip service to 'meticulous'?
- Let wounds fester in moist skin creases?
- No ownership of wounds



Knowing what is right: an obstetrician and evidence?



THE COCHRANE
COLLABORATION®

1972 First RCT

Prevention of prenatal death by antenatal corticosteroid therapy for fetal maturation

1991

Meta-analysis:

Steroids **lower** death risk with **30-50%!!**

Serious Problems with Chemo-Therapy

Chemotherapy is a barbaric medical procedure. It's based on injecting highly toxic chemicals into patients and hoping the chemicals kill the cancer cells before they kill the patient.

But even when it's a "success," it only destroys the patient's immune system, leading to further development of cancer in the years ahead, all while utterly ignoring the root cause of the cancer in the first place.

Not everyone has the same interpretation of the data or the same extrapolation of the consequences...



There are two sides to every argument



**Truth is in the eye
of the beholder**

“One person’s truth is another person’s
hypothesis”: *Philip Banfield* BMJ

The Pollard Phenomenon:



“Yeah but no but yeah
but no.....”:

Vicky Pollard

Standing still – paralysis of inaction



“You don’t need to get it right, you just need to get it going”

Kanya King

CEO MOBO



Information and audit (and surveillance)



“Data, data, data. You cannot make bricks without clay”:

Sherlock Holmes

Banfield: The audit spiral

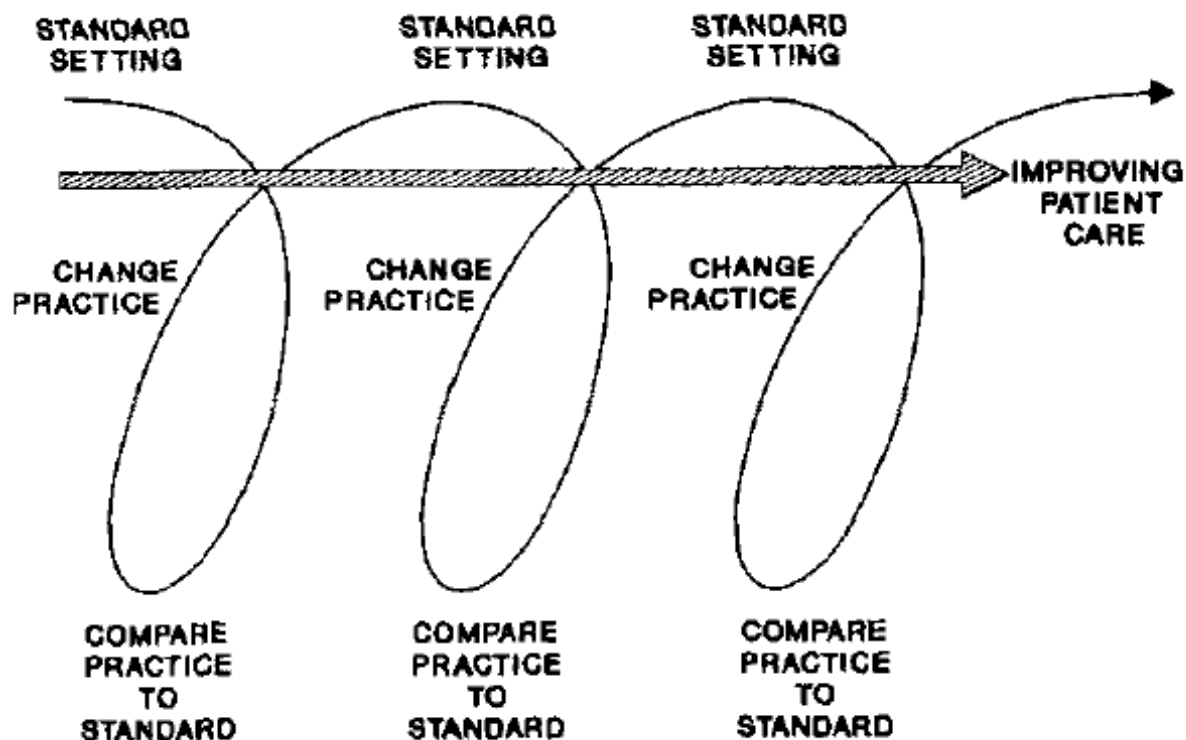


Figure 2. The audit spiral

..... and research findings to be incorporated (or rejected after proper consideration) into local standard setting. It overcomes local objections to recommended standards, because it invites the testing of appropriateness by repeated passage around the basic audit cycle.

The evidence?

- Pre-op
- Intra-op
- Post-op

Pre-op

- Screening and decolonisation
- Showering / washing
- Shaving and clipping

Screening and decolonisation

- MRSA screening reduces MRSA infections
- Scottish Pathfinder Programme
- CMO – Clinical Risk Assessment
- CRA as effective as universal screening for a fraction of the cost, ONLY when CRA $\geq 90\%$
- Obstetrics not a high-impact specialty (unless transferred in or out)

Meticillin

ITU

Orthopaedics

Renal medicine

Cardiovascular / vascular surgery

MRSA - CRA

- Previous MRSA?
- Care home – OR TRANSFERRED FROM ANOTHER HOSPITAL
- Wound / ulcer or invasive device present before admission – ANYTHING THAT BREAKS SKIN (IVIs)?
- How / where to manage?
- Role of decolonisation?

Showering / washing

- NICE – shower or bath
- Little evidence that reduces infections?
- Do you agree?

Shaving and clipping

- Shaving near to surgery is probably bad
- When is there a need to clip or shave?
- What if women shaved at 37 weeks?
- And what about 'self grooming'?

Intra-operative

- Skin prep
- Antibiotics
- Temperature control
- Avoidance of hyperglycaemia

Skin prep

- The type of skin prep doesn't seem to make much difference, but alcohol base to evaporate
- To be effective, it must stay in contact with the skin for a period of time (probably at least 30s)
- What say you?

Antibiotics

- Prophylaxis reduces infection
- Better before skin incision
- Baby (probably) unaffected
- Local cost effectiveness varies (unless you don't want it to)
- Single dose unless.... (major blood loss)

Normothermia

- If $< 36^{\circ}$ then increased oxygen requirements, increased acidosis and poorer healing
- Obstetric theatres are warm, but core temp may be low if vasodilated?
- Discuss...can warm fluids routinely / ambient temp. / cost effectiveness of aids to support core temperature?
- And anyway, it's good theatre practice

Glycaemic control

- Diabetics need glucose <11 mmol/l

Post op

- Dressings
- Hand hygiene

Dressings

- Interactive vs passive
- Most clinical staff (doctors) don't seem to know the difference so a big educational push needed here

Hand hygiene

- Aseptic technique
- Patients – before and after toilet
- Considered very high impact, but done badly
- Something we can improve on immediately for no cost.

Others to consider?

- Antiseptic drapes ? Cost- effectiveness

But what will you do?

- Agree?
- Disagree?
- Does it matter?
- Are there minimum standards?
- Are there limits?

Perhaps, if your overall rate isn't zero, there is room for improvement!

This is about supporting a need to improve your own practice and be shown to do so. Wales has shown it can do this.

Obstetric SEPSIS Screening Tool



Obstetric Sepsis / Severe Sepsis Screening Tool

Does the woman have 2 Signs and Symptoms of Infection?

Temperature <36 or >38 °C	Respiratory rate > 20bpm
Heart rate >100 bpm (AN & Intrapartum) > 90bpm (PN)	Acutely altered mental state
WCC >12 or <4 x 10 ⁹ /l (higher threshold in labour)	Hyperglycaemia (Blood sugar >7.7) in the absence of diabetes

If YES

Does the woman have a history or signs of a new infection or infective source ?

Prolonged ruptured membranes or offensive liquor	Breast redness and / or tenderness mastitis
Unexplained fetal tachycardia in the absence of a maternal tachycardia	Fetal demise
Recent delivery / offensive lochia	Cough / sputum / chest pain
Catheter or Dysuria	Abdominal pain distension/diarrhoea
Line infection	Cellulitis/wound infection/septic arthritis
Headache with neck stiffness	Other
Endocarditis	

If Yes the woman has SEPSIS

Does the woman have any signs of organ dysfunction ?

SBP < 90 or MAP <70 mmHg	Lactate > 2mmol/l
Urine output <0.5 ml/kg/hr for 2 hours	New need for Oxygen to keep SaO ₂ >90%
Platelets < 100 x 10 ⁹ /l	INR > 1.5 or aPTT > 60s
Creatinine rise of > 44.2mmol/l or level of >177 mmol/l	Bilirubin > 70µmol/l

NO

YES

If NO, treat for SEPSIS:

Start Sepsis Six** Plus Two

- Oxygen
- Blood cultures
- Lactate
- IV antibiotics
- Fluid therapy
- Fluid balance and catheter

**Consideration of delivery & VTE prophylaxis

If YES, the woman has SEVERE SEPSIS

Start Sepsis Six** Plus 1

- Start the clock.....
- Refer the woman to Critical Care.
- Give IV Antibiotics within 1 hour
- Start with Stat Dose

SEPSIS SIX ** Plus Two Bundle



Obstetric Sepsis Care Pathway First Hour Care Duties

Name	Date.....
Address	Ward.....
Hospital number	

Could this woman have Sepsis?

NO

Negative

Reassess the woman
Apply appropriate management plan

SBAR Reporting



S Situation	Date	Time
	Drs name My name is From Ward/Dept I am calling about The problem is	
B Background	The woman was admitted with on ____/____/____ Gravida: Para: EDD: Gestation: Past med/obs history	
	The MEOWS is Clinical Impression/ Actions/ observations	
A Assessment	Other relevant factors, e.g. Sepsis screening, blood results, urine output	
	I request you review this woman within the nexthrs/mins	
R Recommendation	Document any initial instructions	
	Patient reviewed by Dr at	

All handovers and reporting should use the SBAR format.

**Plus Two	Time	Initial	Reason not done
100% oxygen-rebreathe mask.			
100% oxygen set prior to antibiotics, resuscitation, FBC, U+E, LFT, clotting,			
100% oxygen of organ dysfunction			
100% oxygen lines and			
100% oxygen give boluses of 0.9% (x3) to a max of 60 ml/Kg threshold for invasive critical care. balance & record hourly			
C			

Completed and the woman reviewed within one hour?

All steps done?	YES	NO
Sign:		
Bleep:		

Obstetric sepsis & sepsis bundle CR July 2012 (V3)

Before Opening This Bag Does The Woman Have?

Signs and Symptoms of Sepsis(SSI)

Temperature < 36 or $> 38^{\circ}\text{C}$

Heart rate > 100 bpm (AN & Intrapartum) >90 bpm (PN)

Respiratory rate > 20 /min

WCC > 12 or $< 4 \times 10^9$ /l

Acutely altered mental state

Hyperglycaemia (>7.7 mmol/l)

**2 or more of the above criteria present
plus**

history or signs of new infection

**This woman has SEPSIS. Open this bag
and start SEPSIS SIX**

The contents of this bag are designed to be used with the first hour of a Sepsis diagnosis.

A separate box containing appropriate 1st line antibiotics is also kept on the ward. Guidelines can be found within the bag.

Any patient with a raised lactate and or signs of organ dysfunction should be referred to Critical Care.

The Sepsis proforma is to be kept in the womans medical notes. Please complete the audit form and return the bag to xxxx, where it will be restocked and returned to the ward.

**If assistance is required please call Outreach _____
or ITU On Call _____.**

If you would like copies of this documentation contact _____

Sepsis Bag



Sepsis Card prompt / aide memoir

Obstetric Prompt



Could this woman have sepsis? Signs and Symptoms of Sepsis

- Temperature $< 36^{\circ}\text{C}$ or $> 38^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Heart rate > 100 bpm (AN & Intrapartum) > 90 bpm (PN)
- Respiratory rate > 20 /min
- WCC > 12 or $< 4 \times 10^9$ /l (higher threshold in labour)
- Acutely altered mental state
- Hyperglycaemia (> 7.7 mmol/l)

Two or more of the above plus a history or signs of new infection:
Start Sepsis Six**Plus Two

Obstetric Sepsis Six **Plus Two

- Oxygen
 - Blood cultures
 - Lactate
 - IV antibiotics
 - Fluid therapy
 - Fluid balance and catheter
- Re-assess
hourly for
severe sepsis

- ** Consider delivery or ERPC
- ** VTE Prophylaxis



It works because there is a large mechanism supporting you supporting patients. What do you need to do the job?



Patients

Clinical teams from all Health Boards



Web Ex calls

Learning sessions

Site visits and 'catch up' calls

How to Guide, Policy Exemplar Guides

Full time programme manager – Cath Roberts

Steering group

Faculty lead

NSAG / HOMAG / RCOG / Welsh Obstetrics and Gynaecology Society / RCM / OAA / AWMSG / RCGP / Welsh Risk Pool

All Health Boards / CMO Wales / CNO Wales / Welsh Government / Health Minister for Wales / Welsh Risk Pool

Make a change for the next woman you meet and encourage two others to do the same – go on. Now!

Questions?

- If we can improve
- care for **one woman**,
- then we can do it for **ten**.
- If we can do it for ten,
- then we can do it for a **100**.
- If we can do it for a 100,
- we can do it for a **1000**
- And if we can do it for a 1000,
- we can do it for **every woman in Wales**.



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