Routine examination of the newborn: the EMREN study. Evaluation of an extension of the midwife role including a randomised controlled trial of appropriately trained midwives and paediatric senior house officers

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Record Status
This is a bibliographic record of a published health technology assessment from a member of INAHTA. No evaluation of the quality of this assessment has been made for the HTA database.

Citation

Authors' objectives
To assess the implications and cost-effectiveness of extending the role of midwives to include the routine (24-hour) examination of the healthy newborn. The main comparison is examination by a midwife specifically trained for the examination (ENB N96), with standard practice, which is routine examination by a paediatric senior house officer (SHO).

To assess the value of a repeat examination by a community midwife at home at 10 days.

Authors' conclusions
All component aspects of the study were consistent in showing benefits or at least no significant barriers to suitably qualified, trained midwives carrying out the examinations. It was surprising, given the findings, that midwives currently examine only 2% of babies and that some N96 trained midwives are not carrying out examinations.

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