Estimating the risk of adverse birth outcomes in pregnant women undergoing non-obstetric surgery using routinely collected NHS data: an observational study

Aylin P, Bennett P, Bottle A, Brett S, Sodhi V, Rivers A, Balinskaite V

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 estimate the risk of adverse birth outcomes of pregnancies in which non-obstetric surgery was or was not carried out. To further analyse common procedure groups.

Authors' conclusions
This is the first study to report the risk of adverse birth outcomes following non-obstetric surgery during pregnancy across NHS hospitals in England. We have no means of disentangling the effect of the surgery from the effect of the underlying condition itself. Our observational study can never attribute a causal relationship between surgery and adverse birth outcomes, and we were unable to determine the risk of not undergoing surgery where surgery was clinically indicated. We have some reservations over associations of risk factors with spontaneous abortion because of potential ascertainment bias. However, we believe that our findings and, in particular, the numbers needed to harm improve on previous research, utilise a more recent and larger data set based on UK practices, and are useful reference points for any discussion of risk with prospective patients. The risk of adverse birth outcomes in pregnant women undergoing non-obstetric surgery is relatively low, confirming that surgical procedures during pregnancy are generally safe.

Final publication URL
http://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/hsdr/hsdr04290/#/abstract

Indexing Status
Subject indexing assigned by CRD

MeSH
Humans; Data Collection; Female; Obstetric Surgical Procedures; Pregnancy; Pregnancy Outcome; Risk

Language Published
English

Country of organisation
England

English summary
An English language summary is available.

Address for correspondence
HS&DR Programme, National Institute for Health Research, Evaluation, Trials and Studies Coordinating Centre, University of Southampton, Alpha House, Enterprise Road, Southampton, SO16 7NS, UK Tel: +44 23 8059 4304 Email: hsdrinfo@southampton.ac.uk
AccessionNumber
32016001041

Date abstract record published
12/10/2016