A fathers presence during labour is now commonplace in modern obstetric practise. We sought to evaluate fathers’ experiences of pregnancy, labour and delivery. A survey was distributed to fathers in the postnatal period, and comprised of 17 questions. The questions were quantitative and multiple-choice in nature. No qualitative data was sought. A total of 1000 completed questionnaires were submitted for analysis. The median age of fathers in the study was 33.8 years. Approximately 70% of the population were married, while 27.3% were in long term relationships. A significant percentage of the fathers were employed (88.1%) in paid work. Less than 8% were unemployed. First time fathers constituted the largest group (53.7%). Planned pregnancies constituted 77.9% with 2.5% as a result of fertility treatment. Seventy percent of fathers were ‘over-joyed’, 18.4% were ‘pleased’ and 11.3% responded either neutrally or negatively to the news of the pregnancy. Fathers were found to be likely to present at ultrasound scans (89.1%) but less likely to be involved in antenatal education classes (48%). Almost all fathers were present at the delivery (97.2%). Nearly half of the fathers (49.6%) planned to attend the delivery because they really wanted to witness the birth, 43% attended to support their partner. At every stage of the pregnancy fathers perceived midwifery staff to have communicated better when compared to medical staff.

Our quantitative survey found that in general fathers involvement with the pregnancy process and their attendance at the birth to be a positive experience. Communication processes can be improved to better support the father in his role during this time.

Background Cesarean section at full dilatation can be a technically demanding procedure and has a consistent association with laceration injuries to uterus, cervix and vagina. Recent Scottish Morbidity data showed 25% of women delivered by emergency caesarean section and experiencing massive obstetric haemorrhage (MOH) were delivered in the 2nd stage of labour. 16.3% of all the MOH cases were caused by extensions of the uterine incisions involving the uterine artery, cervix, vagina, or bladder. Morbidity data showed 25% of women delivered by emergency caesarean section and experiencing massive obstetric haemorrhage. Recent Scottish data was sought. A total of 1000 completed questionnaires were submitted for analysis. The median age of fathers in the study was 33.8 years. Approximately 70% of the population were married, while 27.3% were in long term relationships. A significant percentage of the fathers were employed (88.1%) in paid work. Less than 8% were unemployed. First time fathers constituted the largest group (53.7%). Planned pregnancies constituted 77.9% with 2.5% as a result of fertility treatment. Seventy percent of fathers were ‘over-joyed’, 18.4% were ‘pleased’ and 11.3% responded either neutrally or negatively to the news of the pregnancy. Fathers were found to be likely to present at ultrasound scans (89.1%) but less likely to be involved in antenatal education classes (48%). Almost all fathers were present at the delivery (97.2%). Nearly half of the fathers (49.6%) planned to attend the delivery because they really wanted to witness the birth, 43% attended to support their partner. At every stage of the pregnancy fathers perceived midwifery staff to have communicated better when compared to medical staff.

Our quantitative survey found that in general fathers involvement with the pregnancy process and their attendance at the birth to be a positive experience. Communication processes can be improved to better support the father in his role during this time.
between the healthcare provider and the woman’, ‘enabling autonomy’ and ‘avoiding a paternalistic relationship’. Greater information for OVD in antenatal classes was suggested in order to counteract a common theme of negative perceptions of an operative delivery.

**Conclusion** Vulnerability of the women’s feelings highlights the importance of non technical skills in ensuring a woman feels trust, is empowered and in control. These non-technical skills need to be taught, learnt and practised to ensure a woman’s experience is safe, positive and pays justice to the delight of having a child.

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**Abstracts**

**PL.34**  
A TWO YEARS AUDIT OF INCIDENCE, RISK FACTOR, MATERNAL AND NEONATAL OUTCOME OF UMBILICAL CORD PROLAPSE AT AL CORNICHE HOSPITAL ABU DHABI UAE  

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To determine the incidence, risk factors, obstetric management, maternal and neonatal outcome of umbilical cord prolapse (UCP) in order to improve the obstetric services  

**Methodology** This is retrospective audit of all the cases of Umbilical cord prolapsed at Corniche Hospital during January 2009 and December 2010.  

**Results** Twenty three cases diagnosed as umbilical cord prolapse. The hospital based incidence of cord prolapse was 1.760. The mean Dignoses-Delivery Interval (DDI) was 18.5 Minutes. Eleven mothers (47.8%) delivered within this period of time. Eighty two percent women were multiparous. 86.9%were singleton pregnancies while 13.1% were (three sets) of twin gestations. Fifteen pregnancies (65.2%) were of more than 57 weeks of gestations. In 26.15% (n = 6) cases, fetuses were presented as breech. In majority of the case (n = 17) general anaesthesia was given (74%) for emergency caesarean section (LSCS) and in 4 cases (17%) spinal anaesthesia was chosen for caesarean delivery. Twenty two (95.65%) women were delivered by LSCS and one women had successful vaginal delivery. Twenty two (95.65%) women were operated for suspected fetal compromise on CTG, followed by 30% for persistent fetal bradycardia > 6 minutes. 64% deliveries happened during night shift and 34% were undertaken by junior registrars. Decision to perform Cat1 CS was directly taken by consultant in 36% of cases with consultant being first surgeon in 78% of these cases mostly as resident on-call during nights. Mean decision-to-delivery interval was 18.8 minutes with 87% deliveries performed within targeted 30 minutes. 42% of Cat1 CS were performed under general anaesthetic with shortest mean DDI of 14.5 minutes compared to spinal anaesthesia (25 minutes) and epidural top-up (16.7 minutes). 16% had massive PPH > 1.5 litres however average hospital stay was 3 days. 26% babies were admitted to SCBU with 61% being severely acidoic with cord pH < 7.0 or base excess > 12. Mean DDI in these babies was 24 minutes.  

**Conclusion** Targeted DDI of 30 minutes is difficult to achieve in 100% of cases. Use of General anesthesia shortens the DDI interval but has its own implications. Resident on-call consultant night shifts increase direct consultant input and may influence outcomes. A significant number of babies required admission to SCBU with proportion of acidotic babies remaining high. Further measures are required to improve Decision-to-Delivery interval to improve perinatal outcomes.

**PL.35**  
OUTCOMES FOLLOWING INDUCTION OF LABOUR(IOL) IN THE EAST OF SCOTLAND  

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**Objectives** To review delivery outcomes for IOL at Term in Ninewells Hospital Dundee and to determine whether maternal factors, indications and gestational age influence outcomes.  

**Methods** Data were collected from all IOL at Term between 01/01/11–31/08/12. Information on outcomes was collected from the local maternity database (Torex Protons Evolution).  

**Results** 1802/7499 (24%) had IOL. Median age was 29 years (Range = 15–48 years) and median BMI was 25.7 kg/m² (Range = 15–66 kg/m²). 1020/1802 (56.6%) were primiparous. Median gestational age was 40 weeks (Range 37–43 weeks). 664/1802 (36.8%) of IOL were for post-dates pregnancy, 280/1802 (15.5%) were for prolonged pre-labour rupture of membranes (PROM), 194/1802 (10.7%) were for hypertensive disease, 132/1802 (7.3%) were for suspected fetal growth restriction (FGR) and 106/1802 (5.8%) were for diabetes.1057/1802 (58.6%) had spontaneous vertex delivery, 360/1802 (19.9%) had operative vaginal delivery (OVD) and 385/1802 (21.3%) had caesarean section (CS). BMI > 30 kg/m² was associated with increased risk of CS (RR = 1.23.95%CI = 1.01–1.50, p = 0.03), and this was independent of gestational age and indication. Women who had IOL for post dates pregnancy had higher rates of CS (RR = 1.25.95%CI = 1.05–1.50, p = 0.01) and OVD (RR = 1.28.95%CI = 1.06–1.54, p = 0.01). Women who had IOL for suspected SGA fetus had lower rates of CS (RR = 0.51, 95%CI = 0.31–0.83, p = 0.003) Women who had IOL for PROM had lower rates of OVD (RR = 0.57, 95%CI = 0.43–0.76, p < 0001).  

**Conclusion** The majority of women who have IOL at Term will have a vaginal delivery. Nevertheless the risk of operative intervention increases significantly in women who have IOL at 41 weeks gestation and beyond. due to IOL for post dates pregnancy. This data will be useful in counselling women requiring IOL at Term.

**PL.36**  
CATEGORY 1 CAESAREAN SECTIONS AND DECISION TO DELIVERY INTERVAL: ARE WE MISSING TARGET?  

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**Background** NICE guidelines recommend decision-to-delivery interval (DDI) of 30 minutes for all category 1 Caesarean Sections (Cat1 CS).  

**Methods** A retrospective analysis of 50 Cat1 CS carried out in a busy district hospital.  

**Results** 44% of all Cat1 CS were done for suspected fetal compromise on CTG, followed by 30% for persistent fetal bradycardia > 6 minutes. 64% deliveries happened during night shift and 34% were undertaken by junior registrars. Decision to perform Cat1 CS was directly taken by consultant in 36% of cases with consultant being first surgeon in 78% of these cases mostly as resident on-call during nights. Mean decision-to-delivery interval was 18.8 minutes with 87% deliveries performed within targeted 30 minutes. 42% of Cat1 CS were performed under general anaesthetic with shortest mean DDI of 14.5 minutes compared to spinal anaesthesia (25 minutes) and epidural top-up (16.7 minutes). 16% had massive PPB > 1.5 litres however average hospital stay was 3 days. 26% babies were admitted to SCBU with 61% being severely acidoic with cord pH < 7.0 or base excess > 12. Mean DDI in these babies was 24 minutes.  

**Conclusion** Targeted DDI of 30 minutes is difficult to achieve in 100% of cases. Use of General anaesthesia shortens the DDI interval but has its own implications. Resident on-call consultant night shifts increase direct consultant input and may influence outcomes. A significant number of babies required admission to SCBU with proportion of acidotic babies remaining high. Further measures are required to improve Decision-to-Delivery interval to improve perinatal outcomes.

**PL.37**  
MATERNAL ADIPOSEITY AND CAESAREAN SECTION  

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Maternal obesity and rising caesarean section (CS) rates are important obstetric issues. High visceral fat (VF) is associated with an increased risk of medical conditions outside pregnancy and gestational diabetes mellitus. The purpose of the study was to assess risk...