notes helped them to be more involved with planning their care. Most healthcare providers (92%) thought that the notes were helpful in planning care, flowed logically and facilitated documentation.

Conclusions Our new pre-pregnancy notes are a useful tool to make women with diabetes aware of the preparations necessary before commencing a pregnancy. Following the success of the pilot, the record is now being introduced in an increasing number of maternity units providing diabetes in pregnancy care.

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OUTCOMES OF EXPECTANTLY MANAGED PRETERM PREMATURE RUPTURE OF MEMBRANES BEFORE 28 WEEKS OF GESTATION

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Objectives The aim of our study was to define the maternal and fetal outcome following preterm rupture of membranes before 28 weeks of pregnancy.

Study design We conducted a retrospective study at tertiary centre, Northern Ireland. The study group included 10 patients with premature rupture of membranes ranging between 14 weeks to 27+6 weeks gestation during the period January 2009–2010 December. The main outcome measured was neonatal survival.

Results Given the cultural background termination of pregnancy is discussed only if there is threat to maternal life. All women in our group had expectant management. We had one twin pregnancy. 3 women had history of antepartum haemorrhage in the current pregnancy. The latency between rupture of membranes to delivery varied from 1 day to 11 weeks. All women had spontaneous onset of labour. 82% of babies were delivered vaginally of which nearly 56% were vaginal breech delivery. Our take home baby rate was only 45%. There was 3 stillbirth and 3 neonatal death in the group. Unfortunately women with rupture of membranes before 20 weeks of gestation had perinatal mortality of 100%. The main cause of death was prematurity. We also discuss about steroids, newborn resuscitation methods, weight of babies, survival days in case of neonatal death, length of stay mother antenatally, postnatally and of the baby.

Conclusion our results are valuable in counselling women with early preterm rupture of membranes. Pregnancy outcomes remain dismal when the fetal membrane ruptures before 20 weeks of gestation.

WHAT IS THE APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT OF A PREGNANT WOMAN WITH RISK FACTORS FOR GESTATIONAL DIABETES (GDM) AFTER AN INCOMPLETE OGTT RESULT?

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Background Severe nausea and vomiting are recognised complications of OGTT and the estimated rate of failure to complete the 75 g test protocol has been stated as 2.4%. This scenario leaves clinicians with a dilemma about further management and there are no guidelines on this subject.

Aims To analyse the management of pregnant women with risk factors for gestational diabetes whose diagnosis remains unresolved following an incomplete WHO 75 g OGTT and to relate this to outcomes.

Methods Retrospective case note reviews of incomplete OGTT cases where fasting levels were normal according to WHO criteria.

Results 17 women met the selection criteria. All the women had at least one NICE recognised risk factor for gestational diabetes, the commonest factor being relevant history in a first degree relative (58.8%). The OGTTs were performed between 26 and 34 weeks gestation and were all incomplete due to severe nausea or vomiting. Subsequently, 53% (9/17) of the women were given dietary advice and carried out blood glucose monitoring for one week before discharged to standard antenatal care, 6% (1/17) continued monitoring for 1 month, 6% (1/17) continued monitoring till the end of the pregnancy and 35% (6/17) were discharged to standard care without any monitoring. None of the women required any further intervention on the grounds of raised glucose levels. They all proceeded to live-births and there were no adverse sequelae directly attributable to GDM.

Conclusions Limited monitoring after an incomplete “normal” OGTT in women with risk factors for GDM resulted in no significant increase in adverse sequelae.

DEFYING THE BIOLOGICAL CLOCK: WHY ARE UK WOMEN BECOMING MOTHERS LATER?

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Despite warnings regarding increased risks of infertility and poor pregnancy outcomes, more women are delaying childbearing past age 35 1. Limited empirical research has examined the factors underlying this demographic shift. This study explored views surrounding the timing of childbearing among childless women from North-West England and portrayals of older mothers in the British Media, which is recognised as a powerful influence on health-related behaviours. In-depth qualitative analyses were conducted of: (1) The views and experiences of six women aged between 18 and 24, six women aged between 25 and 34 and six women aged 35 or more and (2) Representations of pregnancy/birth in women over 35, in 839 newspaper/magazine articles and 35 television programmes published or broadcast over a calendar month. Data were managed manually and subjected to thematic analysis. Across groups, women suggested that they were living within boundaries, defined by themselves and others; they aspired to being a great mother or no mother; and had a desire to contribute to family and society, at multiple levels. Personal expectations and social factors contextualised decision making. Media discourses, dominated by celebrity coverage, promoted later motherhood as a means to reconcile expectations of economic and social productivity with being a ‘good mother’. Medical risks were underplayed, reinforcing women’s notions that later motherhood was achievable and acceptable. Effective communication of the risks associated with delayed childbearing challenges professionals and policymakers to expand the current restrictive framing of this issue.

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SHOULDER DYSTOCIA – A RISK MANAGEMENT POINT OF VIEW

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