



Inequalities in Infant Mortality Project Evidence Map Report 1

**The effectiveness of interventions targeting
infant mortality: a user's guide to the systematic
review evidence**

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Contents

Overview of the evidence map.....	4
1 Structure of the evidence map	5
2 Interventions delivered in the pre- and periconceptual period.....	5
3 Interventions targeting pregnant women	5
3.1 Interventions for the prevention and management of preterm birth	6
3.2 Other interventions targeting pregnant women	6
4 Interventions targeting the neonate/infant.....	7
4.1 Interventions to prevent, treat and manage lung disease of prematurity	7
4.2 Interventions to prevent and treat infections of the neonate/ infant.....	7
4.3 Interventions to prevent and treat necrotizing enterocolitis	7
4.4 Interventions relating to resuscitation.....	8
4.5 Nutritional supplements.....	8
4.6 Treatment and prevention of other neonatal conditions	8
4.7 Interventions to prevent neurodevelopmental disorders and other adverse infant outcomes	8
4.8 Other miscellaneous interventions.....	9
Acknowledgement	9
Tables	10
References	31

Tables

Table 1: List of reviews evaluating interventions targeting women in the pre- and peri-conceptual period	10
Table 2: List of reviews evaluating interventions relating to in vitro fertilization (IVF)	10
Table 3: List of reviews evaluating the prevention and treatment of infections during pregnancy to prevent preterm birth	10
Table 4: List of reviews evaluating screening/monitoring aimed at early detection of preterm labour	12
Table 5: List of reviews evaluating the use of progesterone to prevent preterm birth	12
Table 6: List of reviews evaluating cervical cerclage.....	12
Table 7: List of reviews evaluating the use of tocolytic agents.....	13
Table 8: List of reviews evaluating prenatal administration of corticosteroids and other drugs to improve neonatal outcome in preterm labour.....	14
Table 9: List of reviews evaluating other miscellaneous interventions for the prevention of preterm birth	15
Table 10: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent and manage pre-eclampsia and hypertension	15
Table 11: List of reviews evaluating other miscellaneous interventions aimed at optimizing pregnancy outcomes	17
Table 12: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent, treat and manage lung disease of prematurity	20
Table 13: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent and treat infection in the neonate/infant.....	24
Table 14: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent and treat necrotizing enterocolitis.....	25
Table 15: List of reviews evaluating interventions relating to resuscitation of newborn infants	26
Table 16: List of reviews evaluating the use of nutritional supplements in neonates	26
Table 17: List of reviews evaluating the treatment and prevention of other neonatal conditions	26
Table 18: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent neurodevelopmental disorders and other adverse neonatal/infant outcomes	28
Table 19: List of reviews evaluating other miscellaneous interventions, including general aspects of neonatal care	29

Overview of the evidence map

This document provides a systematic description of the published systematic reviews assessing primary research on the effectiveness of interventions to reduce:

- infant mortality

and its three major causes:

- preterm birth
- major congenital anomalies
- sudden infant death syndrome/sudden unexpected deaths in infancy (SIDS/SUDI)

It can be used to rapidly identify the relevant systematic review evidence:

- Results are grouped by intervention and recipient and further sub-classified by intervention type and/or the condition or outcome targeted by the intervention
- Results tables provide hyperlinks to full-text Cochrane reviews or Pubmed abstracts

Because the evidence map has been constructed systematically, it can also be used to identify interventions for which no systematic reviews have been published that report the infant mortality outcomes considered here.

The Inequalities in Infant Mortality Project Evidence Map is made up of four reports and an online searchable database that can be accessed online via a link at:

<http://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/infant-mortality>.

What is an Evidence Map?

- A comprehensive and systematic description of the existing literature on a particular topic.
- Provides an overview of research on a given topic; also highlights gaps in the available literature.
- It does not involve quality appraisal and synthesis of results as undertaken in a systematic review.

What does the Evidence Map include?

- 331 systematic reviews specifically assessing the effectiveness of interventions to reduce infant mortality, preterm birth, major congenital anomalies and SIDS/SUDI.
- Includes all relevant systematic reviews published in the scientific literature in English, from 1990 to the end of 2008, with Cochrane reviews included from 1990 to early 2009.

How did we find the information?

- Extensive systematic literature searches of relevant databases (Medline, Embase, Cinahl and The Cochrane Library).
- Full details of the methodology can be found in the 'Technical Guide to the infant mortality evidence map: systematic reviews of interventions targeting infant mortality' available online at: <http://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/infant-mortality>.

What did we find?

- 331 systematic reviews.
- The majority were Cochrane reviews (n=227).
- Around half of the reviews related to interventions targeting the neonate or infant; and around half related to interventions targeting pregnant women; a small number of reviews related to interventions targeting other groups (healthcare workers, periconceptional women, the fetus, family members).

- The majority of reviews relating to interventions targeting the neonate/infant focused on the treatment of preterm and low birth weight babies in a hospital setting.
- Reviews looking at interventions in pregnant women predominantly related to the prevention of preterm birth.
- None of the reviews related to interventions targeting SIDS/SUDI.

1 Structure of the evidence map

The evidence map includes 331 systematic reviews evaluating a wide range of interventions.

- Results are presented under the following broad headings:
- Interventions delivered in the pre- and peri-conceptual period (Section 2)
- Interventions delivered during pregnancy (including interventions directly targeting the fetus and interventions delivered antenatally to improve neonatal outcome) (Section 3)
- Interventions involving the treatment and management of neonates and infants (Section 4)

Within each of these broad headings, results are further grouped by type of intervention, condition (treated or prevented) and/or target recipient eg preterm babies. However, there is no accepted typology of interventions so this framework is provided as a guide to users rather than as a definitive classification.

Some reviews covering a range of interventions or outcomes are listed in multiple sections but in most cases reviews are listed in only one section, based on the reviewer's assessment of their primary focus. Table footnotes are provided to point the user to relevant reviews listed in other sections but users interested in a particular intervention, condition or outcome are encouraged to search the full online database for relevant reviews rather than relying on the presentation in these tables. The online database (available at: <http://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/infant-mortality>) provides additional searchable information about the reviews, eg which of the four eligible outcomes (infant mortality, preterm birth, major congenital anomalies, SIDS/SUDI) was evaluated in the published review, and whether the intervention targets a specific high risk maternal/infant group.

All tables in this user's guide contain hyperlinks to the full-text Cochrane review, to the abstract in Pubmed (where available) or to some other web link to the article.

2 Interventions delivered in the pre- and periconceptual period

There were six systematic reviews of interventions carried out in the periconceptual period. These related to:

- Interventions targeting pre- and periconceptual women (Table 1)
- In vitro fertilization (IVF) (Table 2)

3 Interventions targeting pregnant women

The included reviews evaluated a range of interventions and strategies aimed at improving pregnancy outcomes and the health of the infant, the majority of which focused on interventions for the prevention and management of preterm birth.

Results are presented under two main headings:

- interventions for the prevention and management of preterm birth (section 3.1), and
- other interventions targeting pregnant women (section 3.2). Within these sections, included reviews are further grouped under a number of sub-headings.

3.1 Interventions for the prevention and management of preterm birth

The main strategies evaluated for the prevention and management of preterm birth fell under the following three headings:

- Prevention and treatment of infections during pregnancy (Table 3)
 - Treatment of urogenital tract infections prior to the onset of labour/rupture of membranes to prevent preterm birth
 - Prevention and treatment of infections in preterm rupture of membranes
- Other interventions for the prevention and management of preterm labour:
 - Interventions aimed at the early identification of preterm labour (Table 4)
 - Progesterone administration (Table 5)
 - Cervical cerclage (Table 6)
 - Tocolytic drugs (Table 7)
- Prenatal administration of corticosteroids and other drugs to improve neonatal outcome in preterm labour (Table 8)

Reviews evaluating other miscellaneous interventions for the prevention of preterm birth are listed in Table 9.

Reviews evaluating the prevention and management of preeclampsia and hypertension (which may lead to preterm delivery) are considered in section 3.2 below.

3.2 Other interventions targeting pregnant women

Other strategies to improve pregnancy outcome and the health of the infant included:

- Prevention and management of preeclampsia and hypertension (Table 10)
- Other miscellaneous interventions aimed at optimizing pregnancy outcome and the health of the infant (Table 11). Reviews covered the following
 - Strategies to optimize prenatal care including home visiting and other psychosocial interventions/support during pregnancy
 - Nutritional supplementation and other dietary interventions
 - Management of diabetes
 - Prenatal screening/monitoring of high risk pregnancies
 - Ultrasound/other fetal monitoring
 - Diagnosis and management of placental disorders
 - Strategies to optimize the timing and/or mode of delivery in higher risk pregnancies (multiple pregnancies, prior caesarean, etc)
 - Fetal monitoring during labour
 - Interventions to reduce mother-to baby transmission of infections
 - Fetal reduction in multiple pregnancies
 - Interventions directly targeting the fetus e.g. management of twin-twin transfusion syndrome
 - Interventions to reduce smoking and other maternal risk factors associated with fetal growth restriction or other adverse outcomes
 - Other miscellaneous interventions (mode of delivery of baby with abdominal wall defect; antibiotics from prelabour rupture of membranes at term)

4 Interventions targeting the neonate/infant

The included reviews covered a diverse range of interventions. Reviews are grouped under the following headings:

- Interventions to prevent, treat and manage lung disease of prematurity (section 4.1)
- Interventions to prevent and treat infections of the neonate/infant (section 4.2)
- Interventions to prevent and treat necrotizing enterocolitis (section 4.3)
- Interventions relating to neonatal resuscitation (section 4.4)
- Use of nutritional supplements, predominantly in preterm/low birthweight (LBW) infants receiving parenteral feeding (section 4.5)
- Interventions for the prevention and treatment of other neonatal conditions (section 4.6)
- Interventions to prevent neurodevelopmental and other adverse neonatal/infant outcomes (section 4.7)
- Other miscellaneous interventions, including general aspects of neonatal care (section 4.8)

4.1 Interventions to prevent, treat and manage lung disease of prematurity

The included reviews (Table 12) cover the following interventions:

- Ventilation/extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)
- Surfactants
- Postnatal corticosteroids
- Diuretics
- Other miscellaneous interventions, including drug therapies, nutrition and positioning

Antenatal corticosteroids are covered in an earlier section (see Table 8).

4.2 Interventions to prevent and treat infections of the neonate/infant

The included reviews (Table 13) cover the prevention and treatment of:

- Sepsis
- Respiratory syncytial virus
- Bacterial meningitis
- Fungal infections
- Catheter related infections
- Other miscellaneous infections

4.3 Interventions to prevent and treat necrotizing enterocolitis

The included reviews (Table 14) evaluate a range of interventions, including:

- Antibiotics
- Probiotics and other nutritional supplements
- Feeding regimens

4.4 Interventions relating to resuscitation

The included reviews (Table 15) evaluate a range of interventions, including:

- Air vs. oxygen
- Sodium bicarbonate infusion
- Positive end-expiratory pressure
- Epinephrine

4.5 Nutritional supplements

The included reviews (Table 16) predominantly evaluate nutritional supplements in preterm or low birthweight infants, including:

- Amino acids (glutamine, cysteine, taurine)
- Vitamins/minerals (vitamin E, vitamin A, selenium, iodine)
- Lipids

4.6 Treatment and prevention of other neonatal conditions

The included reviews (Table 17) cover the prevention and treatment of a diverse range of neonatal conditions, including:

- Intraventricular haemorrhage
- Non-oliguric hyperkalaemia
- patent ductus arteriosus
- gastroschisis

Antenatal interventions to prevent intraventricular haemorrhage in the neonate are covered in Table 8.

4.7 Interventions to prevent neurodevelopmental disorders and other adverse infant outcomes

The reviews included in this section (Table 18) focus on effects on neurodevelopmental outcomes, predominantly in neonates who have suffered asphyxia (or other form of hypoxia) or hypothyroxinaemia. The interventions include:

- Cooling
- Thyroid and other hormones
- Allopurinol
- Nitric oxide
- Naloxone
- Adrenaline
- Iodine supplementation

This table does not cover the full range of interventions potentially affecting neurodevelopmental outcomes: neurodevelopmental outcomes are also considered in a number of reviews covered in other sections. In particular, see reviews relating to prevention and treatment of lung disease of prematurity (Table 12); reviews evaluating the use of nutritional supplements in neonates (Table 16); reviews relating to other miscellaneous interventions to improve neonatal outcomes (Table 19); and antenatal interventions to improve neonatal outcome in preterm labour (Table 8).

4.8 Other miscellaneous interventions

The reviews included in this section (Table 19) cover a diverse range of interventions, including:

- Interventions to prevent hypothermia in preterm and LBW infants
- Interventions involving catheter use
- Treatment of hypotension/poor perfusion
- Other miscellaneous interventions (preterm infants)
 - Administration of fluid bolus in preterm infants with metabolic acidosis
 - Albumin infusion in preterm infants with low serum albumin
 - Water intake regulation in preterm infants
 - Transpyloric vs. gastric tube feeding
 - Pre-discharge "car seat challenge"
- Other miscellaneous interventions
 - Thyroid hormone supplementation in infants undergoing cardiac surgery
 - Endotracheal intubation in vigorous meconium-stained infants
 - Clinical decision support systems for neonatal care

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Tables

Note that the tables list the citations as at the time the Evidence Map was constructed. Cochrane reviews are hyperlinked to the **most recent version**. Where the review has been updated, the author, year and/or title may differ between versions.

Table 1: List of reviews evaluating interventions targeting women in the pre- and peri-conceptional period

Preconception care (screening and advice/counselling)

- *Preconception care: a systematic review (Korenbrodt, 2002)*
- *Preconception care and the risk of congenital anomalies in the offspring of women with diabetes mellitus: a meta-analysis (Ray, 2001)*
- *Preconception counselling for women with epilepsy to reduce adverse pregnancy outcome (Winterbottom, 2008)*

Periconceptional vitamin and folate supplementation

- *Vitamin supplements and the risk for congenital anomalies other than neural tube defects (Botto, 2004)*
- *Periconceptional supplementation with folate and/or multivitamins for preventing neural tube defects (Lumley, 2001)*

Table 2: List of reviews evaluating interventions relating to in vitro fertilization (IVF)

Single or multiple embryo transfer

- *Single or multiple embryo transfer following in vitro fertilisation for improved neonatal outcome: a systematic review of the literature (Dare, 2004)*

Table 3: List of reviews evaluating the prevention and treatment of infections during pregnancy to prevent preterm birth (1)

Screening/ treatment of bacterial vaginosis and other infections of the urogenitary tract

- *Screening for bacterial vaginosis in pregnancy (Guise, 2001)*
- *Interventions for trichomoniasis in pregnancy (Gulmezoglu, 2002)*
- *Indications for therapy and treatment recommendations for bacterial vaginosis in nonpregnant and pregnant women: a synthesis of data (Koumans, 2002)*
- *Antibiotics for treating bacterial vaginosis in pregnancy (McDonald, 2007)*
- *Evidence on the benefits and harms of screening and treating pregnant women who are asymptomatic for bacterial vaginosis: an update review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (Nygren, 2008)*
- *Antibiotics for bacterial vaginosis or Trichomonas vaginalis in pregnancy: a systematic review (Okun, 2005)*
- *Antibiotics for ureaplasma in the vagina in pregnancy (Raynes-Greenow, 2004)*
- *Antenatal lower genital tract infection screening and treatment programs for preventing preterm delivery (Sangkomkamhang, 2008)*
- *Antibiotics for asymptomatic bacteriuria in pregnancy (Small, 2007)*
- *Treatments for symptomatic urinary tract infections during pregnancy (Vazquez, 2003)*
- *Duration of treatment for asymptomatic bacteriuria during pregnancy (Villar, 2000)*

Prophylactic antibiotics for the prevention of preterm birth (2)

- *The effect of second-trimester antibiotic therapy on the rate of preterm birth (Morency, 2007)*
- *Prophylactic antibiotics for the prevention of preterm birth in women at risk: a meta-analysis (Simcox, 2007)*
- *Prophylactic antibiotic administration in pregnancy to prevent infectious morbidity and mortality (Thinkhamrop, 2002)*

Antibiotics for preterm rupture of membranes (3)(4)(5)

- *Use of antibiotics for the treatment of preterm parturition and prevention of neonatal morbidity: a metaanalysis (Hutzel, 2008)*
- *Antibiotics for preterm rupture of membranes (Kenyon, 2003)*
- *Antibiotics for preterm rupture of the membranes: a systematic review (Kenyon, 2004)*
- *Concomitant use of glucocorticoids: a comparison of two metaanalyses on antibiotic treatment in preterm premature rupture of membranes (Leitich, 1998)*
- *Antimicrobial therapy in expectant management of preterm premature rupture of the membranes (Mercer, 1995)*

Antibiotics in preterm labour with intact membranes

- *Adjunctive antibiotic treatment in preterm labor and neonatal morbidity: a meta-analysis (Egarter, 1996)*
- *Use of antibiotics for the treatment of preterm parturition and prevention of neonatal morbidity: a metaanalysis (Hutzel, 2008)*
- *Prophylactic antibiotics for inhibiting preterm labour with intact membranes (King, 2002)*
- *Antibiotic therapy for the treatment of preterm labor: a review of the evidence (Thorp, 2002)*

Management of intraamniotic infection

- *Antibiotic regimens for management of intraamniotic infection (Hopkins, 2002)*

Notes:

- (1) See also Table 9 for review relating treatment of periodontal disease (Xiong, 2007).
- (2) These reviews focus predominantly on prophylactic antibiotics but some treatment studies are included.
- (3) For management of prelabour rupture of membranes (PROM) at term see reviews under management of labour and delivery in Table 11 (in particular review by Dare (2006)).
- (4) See also Table 11 under 'Management of labour and delivery' for review relating to intentional delivery in preterm prelabour rupture of membranes (pPROM) (Hartling, 2008).
- (5) See Flenady (2002) (Table 11) for use of antibiotics in PROM at term.

Table 4: List of reviews evaluating screening/monitoring aimed at early detection of preterm labour (1)

Fetal fibronectin testing

- *Fetal fibronectin testing for reducing the risk of preterm birth (Berghella, 2008)*

Uterine monitoring

- *A metaanalysis of home uterine activity monitoring (Colton, 1995)*

Notes:

- (1) See also social and educational interventions in Table 9, in particular review by Hueston (1995) which evaluates interventions involving patient education regarding the signs and symptoms of preterm labour.

Table 5: List of reviews evaluating the use of progesterone to prevent preterm birth

Progesterone

- *Progesterone for the prevention of preterm birth: a critical evaluation of evidence (Coomarasamy, 2006)*
- *Progesterone supplementation for preventing preterm birth: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Dodd, 2005)*
- *Prenatal administration of progesterone for preventing preterm birth in women considered to be at risk of preterm birth (Dodd, 2006)*
- *Progesterone for the prevention of preterm birth: a systematic review (Dodd, 2008)*
- *Progesterone for the prevention of preterm birth among women at increased risk: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials (MacKenzie, 2006)*
- *Progesterone agents to prevent preterm birth: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials (Sanchez-Ramos, 2005)*

Table 6: List of reviews evaluating cervical cerclage

Cervical cerclage

- *Elective cervical cerclage for prevention of preterm birth: a systematic review (Bachmann, 2003)*
- *Effectiveness of cervical cerclage for a sonographically shortened cervix: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Belej-Rak, 2003)*
- *Cerclage for short cervix on ultrasonography: meta-analysis of trials using individual patient-level data (Berghella, 2005)*
- *Cervical stitch (cerclage) for preventing pregnancy loss in women (Drakeley, 2003)*
- *Cervical stitch (cerclage) for preventing pregnancy loss: individual patient data meta-analysis (Jorgensen, 2007)*
- *Prevention of preterm birth by cervical cerclage compared with expectant management: a systematic review (Odibo, 2003)*
- *Abdominal versus vaginal cerclage after a failed transvaginal cerclage: a systematic review (Zaveri, 2002)*

Table 7: List of reviews evaluating the use of tocolytic agents

<p>Tocolytic agents (reviews covering multiple agents)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Tocolytic treatment for the management of preterm labor: a review of the evidence (Berkman, 2003)</i>• <i>Value of maintenance therapy with oral tocolytics: a systematic review (Meirowitz, 1999)</i>• <i>Efficacy of maintenance therapy after acute tocolysis: a meta-analysis (Sanchez-Ramos, 1999)</i>• <i>Tocolytic treatment for the management of preterm labour: a systematic review (Tan, 2006)</i>
<p>Indomethacin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Assessing the neonatal safety of indomethacin tocolysis: a systematic review with meta-analysis (Loe, 2005)</i>• <i>Short cervix on ultrasound: does indomethacin prevent preterm birth? (Berghella, 2006)</i>• <i>Metaanalysis of the effect of antenatal indomethacin on neonatal outcomes (Amin, 2007)</i>
<p>Betamimetics (ritodrine, salbutamol, fenoterol, terbutaline)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Betamimetics for inhibiting preterm labour (Anotayanonth, 2004)</i>• <i>Oral betamimetics for maintenance therapy after threatened preterm labour (Dodd, 2006)</i>• <i>Ritodrine in the treatment of preterm labour: a meta-analysis (Li, 2005)</i>• <i>Efficacy of oral beta-agonist maintenance therapy in preterm labor: a meta-analysis (Macones, 1995)</i>• <i>Terbutaline pump maintenance therapy after threatened preterm labor for preventing preterm birth (Nanda, 2002)</i>• <i>Tocolysis with nifedipine or beta-adrenergic agonists: a meta-analysis (Tsatsaris, 2001)</i>• <i>Nifedipine versus ritodrine for suppression of preterm labor; a meta-analysis (Oei, 1999)</i>• <i>Prophylactic oral betamimetics for preventing preterm labour in singleton pregnancies (Whitworth, 2008)</i>• <i>Effectiveness and safety of ritodrine hydrochloride for the treatment of preterm labour: a systematic review (Yaju, 2006)</i>• <i>Prophylactic oral betamimetics for reducing preterm birth in women with a twin pregnancy (Yamasmit, 2005)</i>
<p>Oxytocin receptor antagonists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Oxytocin receptor antagonists for inhibiting preterm labour (Papatsonis, 2005)</i>• <i>Maintenance therapy with oxytocin antagonists for inhibiting preterm birth after threatened preterm labour (Papatsonis, 2009)</i>
<p>Cyclo-oxygenase (COX) inhibitors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Cyclo-oxygenase (COX) inhibitors for treating preterm labour (King, 2005)</i>

Calcium channel blockers

- *Maintenance therapy with calcium channel blockers for preventing preterm birth after threatened preterm labour (Gaunekar, 2004)*
- *Calcium channel blockers for inhibiting preterm labour (King, 2003)*
- *Nifedipine versus ritodrine for suppression of preterm labor; a meta-analysis (Oei, 1999)*
- *Tocolysis with nifedipine or beta-adrenergic agonists: a meta-analysis (Tsatsaris, 2001)*

Magnesium sulphate (1)

- *Magnesium sulphate for preventing preterm birth in threatened preterm labour (Crowther, 2002)*
- *Magnesium maintenance therapy for preventing preterm birth after threatened preterm labour (Crowther, 1998)*
- *Evidence for magnesium sulfate as a tocolytic agent (Macones, 1997)*

Nitric oxide/nitroglycerin

- *Nitric oxide donors for the treatment of preterm labour (Duckitt, 2002)*
- *Nitroglycerin as a uterine relaxant: a systematic review (Morgan, 2002)*

Notes:

- (1) See also Table 8 for review evaluating use of magnesium sulphate for neuroprotection of the fetus (Doyle, 2009).

Table 8: List of reviews evaluating prenatal administration of corticosteroids and other drugs to improve neonatal outcome in preterm labour (1)

Corticosteroids (2)

- *Multiple courses of antenatal corticosteroids: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Aghajafari, 2001)*
- *Different corticosteroids and regimens for accelerating fetal lung maturation for women at risk of preterm birth (Brownfoot, 2008)*
- *The effects of corticosteroid administration before preterm delivery: an overview of the evidence from controlled trials (Crowley, 1990)*
- *Repeat doses of prenatal corticosteroids for women at risk of preterm birth for preventing neonatal respiratory disease (Crowther, 2007)*
- *Do antenatal corticosteroids help in the setting of preterm rupture of membranes? (Harding, 2001)*
- *Effects of a single course of corticosteroids given more than 7 days before birth: a systematic review (McLaughlin, 2003)*
- *Antenatal corticosteroids for accelerating fetal lung maturation for women at risk of preterm birth (Roberts, 2006)*

Thyrotropin-releasing hormone in addition to prenatal corticosteroids

- *Thyrotropin-releasing hormone added to corticosteroids for women at risk of preterm birth for preventing neonatal respiratory disease (Crowther, 2004)*

Magnesium sulphate for neuroprotection of the fetus

- *Magnesium sulphate for women at risk of preterm birth for neuroprotection of the fetus (Doyle, 2009)*

Vitamin K and phenobarbital to prevent neonatal periventricular haemorrhage (3)

- *Vitamin K prior to preterm birth for preventing neonatal periventricular haemorrhage (Crowther, 2001)*
- *Phenobarbital prior to preterm birth for preventing neonatal periventricular haemorrhage (Crowther, 2003)*

Notes:

- (1) Some reviews relating to antibiotic administration in pPROM and preterm labour (listed in Table 3) also consider neonatal outcomes.
- (2) See also Leitch (1998) (Table 3) for a review of the potential adverse effects of concomitant use of antibiotics and corticosteroids.
- (3) See also Table 17 for postnatal interventions to prevent periventricular hemorrhage.

Table 9: List of reviews evaluating other miscellaneous interventions for the prevention of preterm birth

Bed rest

- *Hospitalisation and bed rest for multiple pregnancy (Crowther, 2001)*
- *Bed rest in singleton pregnancies for preventing preterm birth (Sosa, 2004)*

Social and educational interventions

- *Support during pregnancy for women at increased risk of low birthweight babies (Hodnett, 2003)*
- *A systematic review of telephone support for women during pregnancy and the early postpartum period (Dennis, 2008)*
- *The effectiveness of preterm-birth prevention educational programs for high-risk women: a meta-analysis (Hueston, 1995)*

Hydration

- *Hydration for treatment of preterm labour (Stan, 2002)*

Probiotics

- *Probiotics for preventing preterm labour (Othman, 2007)*

Prophylaxis and treatment of periodontal disease

- *Periodontal disease and pregnancy outcomes: state-of-the-science (Xiong, 2007)*

Table 10: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent and manage pre-eclampsia and hypertension (1)

Progesterone

- *Progesterone for preventing pre-eclampsia and its complications (Meher, 2006)*

Antioxidants

- *Antioxidants for preventing pre-eclampsia (Rumbold, 2008)*

Calcium supplementation

- *Calcium supplementation during pregnancy for preventing hypertensive disorders and related problems (Hofmeyr, 2006)*
- *Dietary calcium supplementation for prevention of pre-eclampsia and related problems: a systematic review and commentary (Hofmeyr, 2007)*

Antiplatelet agents

- *Aspirin for prevention of preeclampsia in women with historical risk factors: a systematic review (Coomarasamy, 2003)*
- *Antiplatelet agents for preventing pre-eclampsia and its complications (Duley, 2007)*
- *A meta-analysis of low-dose aspirin for the prevention of pregnancy-induced hypertensive disease (Imperiale, 1991)*

Magnesium sulphate

- *Magnesium sulphate and other anticonvulsants for women with pre-eclampsia (Duley, 2003)*

Diuretics

- *Diuretics for preventing pre-eclampsia (Churchill, 2007)*

Dopamine

- *Low-dose dopamine for women with severe pre-eclampsia (Steyn, 2007)*

Nitric oxide

- *Nitric oxide for preventing pre-eclampsia and its complications (Meher, 2007)*

Beta-blockers and other antihypertensive drugs

- *Antihypertensive drug therapy for mild to moderate hypertension during pregnancy (Abalos, 2007)*
- *Drugs for treatment of very high blood pressure during pregnancy (Duley, 2006)*
- *Management of mild chronic hypertension during pregnancy: a review (Ferrer, 2000)*
- *Oral beta-blockers for mild to moderate hypertension during pregnancy (Magee, 2003)*
- *Risks and benefits of beta-receptor blockers for pregnancy hypertension: overview of the randomized trials (Magee, 2000)*

Early elective delivery

- *Interventionist versus expectant care for severe pre-eclampsia before term (Churchill, 2002)*

Other non-pharmacological interventions

- *Bed rest with or without hospitalisation for hypertension during pregnancy (Meher, 2005)*
- *Rest during pregnancy for preventing pre-eclampsia and its complications in women with normal blood pressure (Meher, 2006)*
- *Garlic for preventing pre-eclampsia and its complications (Meher, 2006)*
- *Exercise or other physical activity for preventing pre-eclampsia and its complications (Meher, 2006)*
- *Combined vitamin C and E supplementation during pregnancy for preeclampsia prevention: a systematic review (Polyzos, 2007)*

Notes:

- (1) See also reviews relating to nutritional supplements (listed in Table 11).

Table 11: List of reviews evaluating other miscellaneous interventions aimed at optimizing pregnancy outcomes

Prenatal programs/support/home visits

- *Home visits during pregnancy: consequences on pregnancy outcome, use of health services, and women's situations (Blondel, 1995)*
- *Specialised antenatal clinics for women with a multiple pregnancy for improving maternal and infant outcomes (Dodd, 2007)*
- *Home visits during pregnancy and after birth for women with an alcohol or drug problem (Doggett, 2005)*
- *Prenatal programs: what the literature reveals (Fink, 1992)*
- *Support during pregnancy for women at increased risk of low birthweight babies (Hodnett, 2003)*
- *Who should provide routine antenatal care for low-risk women, and how often? A systematic review of randomised controlled trials. WHO Antenatal Care Trial Research Group (Khan-Neelofur, 1998)*
- *A review of the impact of antenatal care for Australian Indigenous women and attempts to strengthen these services (Rumbold, 2008)*
- *Patterns of routine antenatal care for low-risk pregnancy (Villar, 2001)*
- *A systematic review comparing continuity of midwifery care with standard maternity services (Waldenstrom, 1998)*

Nutritional supplements (1)

- *Prenatal multivitamin supplementation and rates of congenital anomalies: a meta-analysis (Goh, 2006)*
- *Multiple-micronutrient supplementation for women during pregnancy (Haider, 2006)*
- *Effect of supplementation of women in high-risk pregnancies with long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids on pregnancy outcomes and growth measures at birth: a meta-analysis (Horvath, 2007)*
- *Energy and protein intake in pregnancy (Kramer, 2003)*
- *Magnesium supplementation in pregnancy (Makrides, 2001)*
- *Marine oil, and other prostaglandin precursor, supplementation for pregnancy uncomplicated by pre-eclampsia or intrauterine growth restriction (Makrides, 2006)*
- *Zinc supplementation for improving pregnancy and infant outcome (Mahomed, 2007)*
- *Micronutrients and pregnancy outcome: A review of the literature (Ramakrishnan, 1999)*
- *Vitamin C supplementation in pregnancy (Rumbold, 2005)*
- *Vitamin E supplementation in pregnancy (Rumbold, 2005)*
- *Effect of n-3 long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acid supplementation of women with low-risk pregnancies on pregnancy outcomes and growth measures at birth: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials (Szajewska, 2006)*
- *Pyridoxine (vitamin B6) supplementation in pregnancy (Thaver, 2006)*

Management of diabetes

- *Exercise for diabetic pregnant women (Ceysens, 2006)*
- *Continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion versus multiple daily injections of insulin for pregnant women with diabetes (Farrar, 2007)*
- *Screening for gestational diabetes mellitus: a systematic review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (Hillier, 2008)*
- *Dietary advice in pregnancy for preventing gestational diabetes mellitus (Tieu, 2008)*

Ultrasound/other fetal monitoring during pregnancy

- *Doppler ultrasonography in high-risk pregnancies: systematic review with meta-analysis (Alfirevic, 1995)*
- *Routine ultrasound in late pregnancy (after 24 weeks' gestation) (Bricker, 2008)*
- *Regimens of fetal surveillance for impaired fetal growth (Grivell, 2009)*
- *Ultrasound for fetal assessment in early pregnancy (Neilson, 1998)*
- *Fetal movement counting for assessment of fetal wellbeing (Mangesi, 2007)*

Diagnosis and management of placental disorders

- *Heparin therapy for complications of placental dysfunction: a systematic review of the literature (Dodd, 2008)*
- *Biochemical tests of placental function for assessment in pregnancy (Neilson, 2003)*
- *Interventions for suspected placenta praevia (Neilson, 2003)*

Management of labour and delivery (2)

- *Interventionist versus expectant care for severe pre-eclampsia before term (Churchill, 2002)*
- *Planned early birth versus expectant management (waiting) for prelabour rupture of membranes at term (37 weeks or more) (Dare, 2006)*
- *Elective repeat caesarean section versus induction of labour for women with a previous caesarean birth (Dodd, 2006)*
- *Elective caesarean section versus expectant management for delivery of the small baby (Grant, 2001)*
- *Induction of labour for improving birth outcomes for women at or beyond term (Gulmezoglu, 2006)*
- *A systematic review of intentional delivery in women with preterm prelabor rupture of membranes (Hartling, 2006)*
- *Planned caesarean section for term breech delivery (Hofmeyr, 2003)*
- *Abdominal decompression in normal pregnancy (Hofmeyr, 1998)*
- *Cesarean delivery for twins: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Hogle, 2003)*
- *External cephalic version for breech presentation before term (Hutton, 2006)*
- *Elective repeat cesarean delivery versus trial of labor: a meta-analysis of the literature from 1989 to 1999 (Mozurkewich, 2000)*

Fetal monitoring during labour

- *Continuous cardiotocography (CTG) as a form of electronic fetal monitoring (EFM) for fetal assessment during labour (Alfirevic, 2006)*
- *Fetal pulse oximetry for fetal assessment in labour (East, 2007)*
- *Near-infrared spectroscopy for fetal assessment during labour (Mozurkewich, 2000)*

Interventions to reduce mother-to-baby transmission of infections

- *Intrapartum antibiotics for Group B streptococcal colonisation (Small, 1996)*
- *Vaginal chlorhexidine during labour to prevent early-onset neonatal group B streptococcal infection (Stade, 2004)*
- *Antiretrovirals for reducing the risk of mother-to-child transmission of HIV infection (Volmink, 2007)*

Fetal reduction in multiple pregnancy

- *Reduction of the number of fetuses for women with triplet and higher order multiple pregnancies (Dodd, 2003)*
- *Multifetal pregnancy reduction of triplet and higher-order multiple pregnancies to twins (Dodd, 2004)*
- *Risks of miscarriage and early preterm birth in trichorionic triplet pregnancies with embryo reduction versus expectant management: new data and systematic review (Papageorghiou, 2006)*

Interventions directly targeting the fetus

- *Prenatal bladder drainage in the management of fetal lower urinary tract obstruction: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Clark, 2003)*
- *Monochorionic and dichorionic twin pregnancies discordant for fetal anencephaly: a systematic review of prenatal management options (Lust, 2008)*
- *Interventions for twin-twin transfusion syndrome: a Cochrane review (Roberts, 2008)*
- *Interventions for the treatment of twin-twin transfusion syndrome (Roberts, 2008)*
- *Laser therapy and serial amnioreduction as treatment for twin-twin transfusion syndrome: a metaanalysis and review of literature (Rossi, 2008)*

Smoking cessation programmes

- *Interventions for promoting smoking cessation during pregnancy (Lumley, 2004)*

Treatment strategies for opiate dependent women

- *Maintenance agonist treatments for opiate dependent pregnant women (Minozzi, 2008)*

Antibiotics for prelabour rupture of membranes (3)

- *Antibiotics for prelabour rupture of membranes at or near term (Flenady, 2002)*

Mode of delivery of women carrying fetus with abdominal wall defect

- *Fetal abdominal wall defects and mode of delivery: a systematic review (Segel, 2001)*

Notes:

- (1) All reviews evaluating nutritional supplements during pregnancy (except Kramer (2003)) consider gestational hypertension and/or pre-eclampsia as an outcome.
- (2) See also Table 10 under 'Early elective delivery' for review relating to early elective delivery in women with pre-eclampsia (Churchill 2002).
- (3) Reviews covering the use of antibiotics in pPROM are covered in Table 3.

Table 12: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent, treat and manage lung disease of prematurity

Ventilation/extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) (1)

- *Early versus late discontinuation of oxygen in preterm or low birth weight infants (Askie, 2001)*
- *Gradual versus abrupt discontinuation of oxygen in preterm or low birth weight infants (Askie, 2001)*
- *Restricted versus liberal oxygen exposure for preventing morbidity and mortality in preterm or low birth weight infants (Askie, 2009)*
- *Elective high frequency jet ventilation versus conventional ventilation for respiratory distress syndrome in preterm infants (Bhuta, 1998)*
- *Rescue high frequency oscillatory ventilation versus conventional ventilation for pulmonary dysfunction in preterm infants (Bhuta, 1998)*
- *Tracheal gas insufflation for the prevention of morbidity and mortality in mechanically ventilated newborn infants (Davies, 2002)*
- *Synchronized mechanical ventilation for respiratory support in newborn infants (Greenough, 2009)*
- *Continuous positive airway pressure versus theophylline for apnea in preterm infants (Henderson-Smart, 2001)*
- *Mechanical ventilation for newborn infants with respiratory failure due to pulmonary disease (Henderson-Smart, 2002)*
- *Elective high frequency oscillatory ventilation versus conventional ventilation for acute pulmonary dysfunction in preterm infants (Henderson-Smart, 2007) (2)*
- *Early versus delayed initiation of continuous distending pressure for respiratory distress syndrome in preterm infants (Ho, 2002)*
- *Continuous distending pressure for respiratory distress in preterm infants (Ho, 2002)*
- *Rescue high frequency jet ventilation versus conventional ventilation for severe pulmonary dysfunction in preterm infants (Joshi, 2006)*
- *Long versus short inspiratory times in neonates receiving mechanical ventilation (Kamlin, 2003)*
- *Volume-targeted versus pressure-limited ventilation in the neonate (McCallion, 2005)*
- *Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation for severe respiratory failure in newborn infants (Mugford, 2008)*
- *Prophylactic nasal continuous positive airways pressure for preventing morbidity and mortality in very preterm infants (Subramaniam, 2005)*
- *Permissive hypercapnia for the prevention of morbidity and mortality in mechanically ventilated newborn infants (Woodgate, 2001)*

Surfactant

- *Surfactant for pulmonary hemorrhage in neonates (Aziz, 2008)*
- *Natural vs synthetic surfactants in neonatal respiratory distress syndrome (Halliday, 1996)*
- *Exogenous surfactant use in neonates (Ishisaka, 1996)*
- *Meta-analyses of surfactant replacement therapy of infants with birth weights less than 2000 grams (Kresch, 1998)*
- *Protein containing synthetic surfactant versus animal derived surfactant extract for the prevention and treatment of respiratory distress syndrome (Pfister, 2007)*
- *Animal derived surfactant extract for treatment of respiratory distress syndrome (Seger, 2009)*
- *Developmental outcome of preterm infants after surfactant therapy: systematic review of randomized controlled trials (Sinn, 2002)*
- *Prophylactic synthetic surfactant for preventing morbidity and mortality in preterm infants (Soll, 1998)*
- *Synthetic surfactant for respiratory distress syndrome in preterm infant (Soll, 1998)*
- *Natural surfactant extract versus synthetic surfactant for neonatal respiratory distress syndrome (Soll, 2001)*
- *Prophylactic versus selective use of surfactant in preventing morbidity and mortality in preterm infants (Soll, 2001)*
- *Multiple versus single doses of exogenous surfactant for the prevention or treatment of neonatal respiratory distress syndrome (Soll, 2009)*
- *Early surfactant administration with brief ventilation vs. selective surfactant and continued mechanical ventilation for preterm infants with or at risk for respiratory distress syndrome (Stevens, 2007)*

Corticosteroid treatment (3)

- *Early neonatal dexamethasone treatment for prevention of bronchopulmonary dysplasia. Randomised trial and meta-analysis evaluating the duration of dexamethasone therapy (Anttila, 2005)*
- *Meta-analysis of dexamethasone therapy started in the first 15 days of life for prevention of chronic lung disease in premature infants (Arias-Cameron, 1999)*
- *Systematic review and meta-analysis of early postnatal dexamethasone for prevention of chronic lung disease (Bhuta, 1998)*
- *Postnatal corticosteroids in preterm infants: systematic review of effects on mortality and motor function (Doyle, 2000)*
- *Impact of postnatal systemic corticosteroids on mortality and cerebral palsy in preterm infants: effect modification by risk for chronic lung disease (Doyle, 2005)*
- *Clinical trials of postnatal corticosteroids: inhaled and systemic (Halliday, 1999)*
- *Moderately early (7-14 days) postnatal corticosteroids for preventing chronic lung disease in preterm infants (Halliday, 2003)*
- *Early (< 8 days) postnatal corticosteroids for preventing chronic lung disease in preterm infants (Halliday, 2009)*
- *Late (>7 days) postnatal corticosteroids for preventing chronic lung disease in preterm infants (Halliday, 2009)*
- *Effects of higher versus lower dexamethasone doses on pulmonary and neurodevelopmental sequelae in preterm infants at risk for chronic lung disease: a meta-analysis (Onland, 2008)*
- *Early administration of inhaled corticosteroids for preventing chronic lung disease in ventilated very low birth weight preterm neonates (Shah, 2007)*
- *Inhaled versus systemic corticosteroids for the treatment of chronic lung disease in ventilated very low birth weight preterm infants (Shah, 2007)*
- *Steroid therapy for meconium aspiration syndrome in newborn infants (Ward, 2003)*

Diuretics

- *Diuretics for respiratory distress syndrome in preterm infants (Brion, 2008)*
- *Diuretics acting on the distal renal tubule for preterm infants with (or developing) chronic lung disease (Brion, 2002)*
- *Aerosolized diuretics for preterm infants with (or developing) chronic lung disease (Brion, 2006)*

Other

- *Inhaled nitric oxide for respiratory failure in preterm infants (Barrington, 2007) (4)*
- *Antithrombin for respiratory distress syndrome in preterm infants (Bassler, 2006)*
- *Opioids for neonates receiving mechanical ventilation (Bellu, 2008)*
- *Prophylactic doxapram for the prevention of morbidity and mortality in preterm infants undergoing endotracheal extubation (Henderson-Smart, 2000)*
- *Meta-analysis of inhaled nitric oxide in premature infants: an update (Hoehn, 2006)*
- *Inositol for respiratory distress syndrome in preterm infants (Howlett, 2003)*
- *Increased energy intake for preterm infants with (or developing) bronchopulmonary dysplasia/chronic lung disease (Lai, 2006)*
- *Bronchodilators for the prevention and treatment of chronic lung disease in preterm infants (Ng, 2001)*
- *Cromolyn sodium for the prevention of chronic lung disease in preterm infants (Ng, 2001)*
- *Postnatal thyroid hormones for respiratory distress syndrome in preterm infants (Osborn, 2007)*
- *Sildenafil for pulmonary hypertension in neonates (Shah, 2007)*
- *Digoxin for preventing or treating neonatal respiratory distress syndrome (Soll, 1998)*
- *Superoxide dismutase for preventing chronic lung disease in mechanically ventilated preterm infants (Suresh, 2001)*
- *Positioning for acute respiratory distress in hospitalised infants and children (Wells, 2005)*

Notes:

- (1) See 'other' section at foot of table for review relating to pain relief in neonates receiving mechanical ventilation (Bellu, 2008).
- (2) Updated in 2009, now Cools (2009).
- (3) Antenatal corticosteroids are covered in Table 8.
- (4) See also Table 18 for review relating to inhaled nitric oxide in term infants by (Finer, 2006).

Table 13: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent and treat infection in the neonate/infant

<p>Sepsis (treatment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>G-CSF and GM-CSF for treating or preventing neonatal infections (Carr, 2003)</i> • <i>Vancomycin for prophylaxis against sepsis in preterm neonates (Craft, 2000)</i> • <i>Pentoxifylline for treatment of sepsis and necrotizing enterocolitis in neonates (Haque, 2003)</i> • <i>Recombinant human activated protein C for severe sepsis in neonates (Kylat, 2006)</i> • <i>Administration of intravenous immunoglobulins for prophylaxis or treatment of infection in preterm infants: meta-analyses (Lacy, 1995)</i> • <i>Granulocyte transfusions for neonates with confirmed or suspected sepsis and neutropaenia (Mohan, 2003)</i> • <i>Oral lactoferrin for the treatment of sepsis and necrotizing enterocolitis in neonates (Mohan, 2009)</i> • <i>Antibiotic regimens for suspected early neonatal sepsis (Mtitimila, 2004)</i> • <i>Intravenous immunoglobulin for preventing infection in preterm and/or low birth weight infants (Ohlsson, 2004)</i> • <i>Intravenous immunoglobulin for suspected or subsequently proven infection in neonates (Ohlsson, 2004)</i> • <i>Intramuscular penicillin for the prevention of early onset group B streptococcal infection in newborn infants (Woodgate, 2004)</i>
<p>Bacterial meningitis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Intraventricular antibiotics for bacterial meningitis in neonates (Shah, 2004)</i>
<p>Fungal infection (1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Prophylactic oral/topical non-absorbed antifungal agents to prevent invasive fungal infection in very low birth weight infants (Austin, 2003)</i> • <i>Systemic antifungal drugs for invasive fungal infection in preterm infants (Clerihew, 2004)</i> • <i>Prophylactic systemic antifungal agents to prevent mortality and morbidity in very low birth weight infants (Clerihew, 2007)</i>
<p>Respiratory syncytial virus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Immunoglobulin treatment for respiratory syncytial virus infection (Fuller, 2006)</i> • <i>Ribavirin for respiratory syncytial virus infection of the lower respiratory tract in infants and young children (Ventre, 2007)</i>

Other (prophylaxis)

- *Topical ointment for preventing infection in preterm infants (Conner, 2004)*
- *Prophylactic antibiotics to reduce morbidity and mortality in ventilated newborn infants (Inglis, 2007)*
- *Prophylactic antibiotics to reduce morbidity and mortality in neonates with umbilical artery catheters (Inglis, 2007)*
- *Prophylactic systemic antibiotics to reduce morbidity and mortality in neonates with central venous catheters (Jardine, 2008)*
- *Prophylactic antibiotics in the prevention of catheter-associated bloodstream bacterial infection in preterm neonates: a systematic review (Lodha, 2008)*
- *Prophylactic versus selective antibiotics for term newborn infants of mothers with risk factors for neonatal infection (Ungerer, 2004)*
- *Gowning by attendants and visitors in newborn nurseries for prevention of neonatal morbidity and mortality (Webster, 2003)*
- *Topical umbilical cord care at birth (Zupan, 2004)*

Notes:

- (1) See also review on topical ointments for preventing infection in preterm infants (Conner, 2004) listed under 'Other (prophylaxis)' at foot of table.

Table 14: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent and treat necrotizing enterocolitis

Prevention of necrotizing enterocolitis

- *Probiotics for prevention of necrotizing enterocolitis in preterm infants (Alfaleh, 2008)*
- *Probiotics for necrotizing enterocolitis: a systematic review (Barclay, 2007)*
- *Delayed introduction of progressive enteral feeds to prevent necrotising enterocolitis in very low birth weight infants (Bombell, 2008)*
- *Enteral antibiotics for preventing necrotizing enterocolitis in low birthweight or preterm infants (Bury, 2001)*
- *Probiotics for prevention of necrotising enterocolitis in preterm neonates with very low birthweight: a systematic review of randomised controlled trials (Deshpande, 2007)*
- *Oral immunoglobulin for preventing necrotizing enterocolitis in preterm and low birth weight neonates (Foster, 2004)*
- *Slow advancement of enteral feed volumes to prevent necrotising enterocolitis in very low birth weight infants (McGuire, 2008)*
- *Arginine supplementation for prevention of necrotising enterocolitis in preterm infants (Shah, 2007)*

Treatment of necrotizing enterocolitis

- *Pentoxifylline for treatment of sepsis and necrotizing enterocolitis in neonates (Haque, 2003)*
- *Oral lactoferrin for the treatment of sepsis and necrotizing enterocolitis in neonates (Mohan, 2009)*

Table 15: List of reviews evaluating interventions relating to resuscitation of newborn infants

Resuscitation

- *Resuscitation of newborn infants with 100% oxygen or air: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Davis, 2004)*
- *Sodium bicarbonate infusion during resuscitation of infants at birth (Beveridge, 2006)*
- *Positive end-expiratory pressure for resuscitation of newborn infants at birth (O'Donnell, 2003)*
- *Room air resuscitation of the depressed newborn: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Rabi, 2007)*
- *Resuscitation of depressed newborn infants with ambient air or pure oxygen: a meta-analysis (Saugstad, 2005)*
- *Resuscitation of newborn infants with 21% or 100% oxygen: an updated systematic review and meta-analysis (Saugstad, 2008)*
- *Air versus oxygen for resuscitation of infants at birth (Tan, 2005)*
- *Epinephrine for the resuscitation of apparently stillborn or extremely bradycardic newborn infants (Ziino, 2002)*

Table 16: List of reviews evaluating the use of nutritional supplements in neonates

Amino acids

- *Glutamine supplementation for young infants with severe gastrointestinal disease (Grover, 2007)*
- *Cysteine, cystine or N-acetylcysteine supplementation in parenterally fed neonates (Soghier, 2006)*
- *Glutamine supplementation to prevent morbidity and mortality in preterm infants (Tubman, 2008)*
- *Effect of taurine supplementation on growth and development in preterm or low birth weight infants (Verner, 2007)*

Vitamins/minerals

- *Vitamin E supplementation for prevention of morbidity and mortality in preterm infants (Brion, 2003)*
- *Selenium supplementation to prevent short-term morbidity in preterm neonates (Darlow, 2003)*
- *Vitamin A supplementation to prevent mortality and short and long-term morbidity in very low birthweight infants (Darlow, 2007)*
- *Iodine supplementation for the prevention of mortality and adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes in preterm infants (Ibrahim, 2006)*

Lipids

- *Early introduction of lipids to parenterally-fed preterm infants (Simmer, 2005)*

Table 17: List of reviews evaluating the treatment and prevention of other neonatal conditions

Prevention of intraventricular haemorrhage (1)

- *Postnatal phenobarbital for the prevention of intraventricular hemorrhage in preterm infants (Whitelaw, 2007)*

Treatment of intraventricular haemorrhage

- *Repeated lumbar or ventricular punctures in newborns with intraventricular hemorrhage (Whitelaw, 2001)*
- *Diuretic therapy for newborn infants with posthemorrhagic ventricular dilatation (Whitelaw, 2001)*
- *Intraventricular streptokinase after intraventricular hemorrhage in newborn infants (Whitelaw, 2007)*

Surgical interventions for patent ductus arteriosis

- *Improved interstage mortality with the modified Norwood procedure: a meta-analysis (Cua, 2005)*
- *Surgical versus medical treatment with cyclooxygenase inhibitors for symptomatic patent ductus arteriosus in preterm infants (Malviya, 2008)*
- *Prophylactic surgical ligation of patent ductus arteriosus for prevention of mortality and morbidity in extremely low birth weight infants (Mosalli, 2008)*

Medical interventions for patent ductus arteriosis

- *Dopamine versus no treatment to prevent renal dysfunction in indomethacin-treated preterm newborn infants (Barrington, 2002)*
- *Indomethacin for asymptomatic patent ductus arteriosus in preterm infants (Cooke, 2003)*
- *Prophylactic intravenous indomethacin for preventing mortality and morbidity in preterm infants (Fowlie, 2002)*
- *Continuous infusion versus intermittent bolus doses of indomethacin for patent ductus arteriosus closure in symptomatic preterm infants (Gork, 2008)*
- *Prolonged versus short course of indomethacin for the treatment of patent ductus arteriosus in preterm infants (Herrera, 2007)*
- *Surgical versus medical treatment with cyclooxygenase inhibitors for symptomatic patent ductus arteriosus in preterm infants (Malviya, 2008)*
- *Ibuprofen for the treatment of patent ductus arteriosus in preterm and/or low birth weight infants (Ohlsson, 2008)*
- *A meta-analysis of ibuprofen versus indomethacin for closure of patent ductus arteriosus (Thomas, 2005)*

Treatment of non-oliguric hyperkalaemia

- *Interventions for non-oliguric hyperkalaemia in preterm neonates (Vemgal, 2007)*

Surgical treatment of gastroschisis

- *Ward reduction without general anaesthesia versus reduction and repair under general anaesthesia for gastroschisis in newborn infants (Davies, 2002)*

Notes:

- (1) See also Table 8 for reviews relating to antenatal administration of vitamin K (Crowther, 2001) and phenobarbitol (Crowther, 2003) to prevent intraventricular haemorrhage in the neonate.

Table 18: List of reviews evaluating interventions to prevent neurodevelopmental disorders and other adverse neonatal/infant outcomes

<p>Body or head cooling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cooling for newborns with hypoxic ischaemic encephalopathy (Jacobs, 2007)</i> • <i>Hypothermia to treat neonatal hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy: systematic review (Shah, 2007)</i>
<p>Hormones (1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Replacement of estrogens and progestins to prevent morbidity and mortality in preterm infants (Hunt, 2004)</i> • <i>Thyroid hormones for preventing neurodevelopmental impairment in preterm infants (Osborn, 2001)</i> • <i>Postnatal thyroid hormones for preterm infants with transient hypothyroxinaemia (Osborn, 2007)</i> • <i>Prophylactic postnatal thyroid hormones for prevention of morbidity and mortality in preterm infants (Osborn, 2007)</i>
<p>Allopurinol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Allopurinol for preventing mortality and morbidity in newborn infants with suspected hypoxic-ischaemic encephalopathy (Chaudhari, 2008)</i>
<p>Nitric oxide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nitric oxide for respiratory failure in infants born at or near term (Finer, 2006) (2)</i>
<p>Naxolone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Naloxone for preventing morbidity and mortality in newborn infants of greater than 34 weeks' gestation with suspected perinatal asphyxia (McGuire, 2004)</i>
<p>Adrenaline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Adrenaline for prevention of morbidity and mortality in preterm infants with cardiovascular compromise (Paradisis, 2004)</i>
<p>Iodine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iodine supplementation for the prevention of mortality and adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes in preterm infants (Ibrahim, 2006)</i>

Notes:

- (1) See also Table 19 for review relating to thyroid hormone supplementation in infants undergoing cardiac surgery (Dimmick, 2004).
- (2) See also Table 12 for reviews relating to inhaled nitric oxide for the treatment of respiratory failure in preterm infants.

Table 19: List of reviews evaluating other miscellaneous interventions, including general aspects of neonatal care

<p>Interventions to prevent hypothermia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Heat loss prevention: a systematic review of occlusive skin wrap for premature neonates (Cramer, 2005)</i> • <i>Double wall versus single wall incubator for reducing heat loss in very low birth weight infants in incubators (Laroia, 2007)</i> • <i>Interventions to prevent hypothermia at birth in preterm and/or low birthweight infants (McCall, 2008)</i> • <i>Servo-control for maintaining abdominal skin temperature at 36C in low birth weight infants (Sinclair, 2002)</i>
<p>Miscellaneous interventions involving catheter use in the neonate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Umbilical artery catheters in the newborn: effects of heparin (Barrington, 1999)</i> • <i>Intravenous in-line filters for preventing morbidity and mortality in neonates (Foster, 2006)</i> • <i>Prophylactic antibiotics to reduce morbidity and mortality in neonates with umbilical artery catheters (Inglis, 2007)</i> • <i>Prophylactic systemic antibiotics to reduce morbidity and mortality in neonates with central venous catheters (Jardine, 2008)</i> • <i>Multiple versus single lumen umbilical venous catheters for newborn infants (Kabra, 2005)</i>
<p>Treatment of hypotension/ poor perfusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Treating hypotension in the preterm infant: when and with what: a critical and systematic review (Dempsey, 2007)</i> • <i>Early volume expansion versus inotrope for prevention of morbidity and mortality in very preterm infants (Osborn, 2001)</i> • <i>Early volume expansion for prevention of morbidity and mortality in very preterm infants (Osborn, 2004)</i> • <i>The effect of inotropes on morbidity and mortality in preterm infants with low systemic or organ blood flow (Osborn, 2007)</i> • <i>Dopamine versus dobutamine for hypotensive preterm infants (Subhedar, 2003)</i> • <i>Corticosteroids for treating hypotension in preterm infants (Subhedar, 2007)</i>
<p>Other miscellaneous interventions (preterm infants)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Restrictive versus liberal red blood cell transfusion strategies for preterm infants: A systematic review of randomized controlled trials (Bassler, 2008)</i> • <i>Restricted versus liberal water intake for preventing morbidity and mortality in preterm infants (Bell, 2008)</i> • <i>Prophylactic doxapram for the prevention of morbidity and mortality in preterm infants undergoing endotracheal extubation (Henderson-Smart, 2000)</i> • <i>Base administration or fluid bolus for preventing morbidity and mortality in preterm infants with metabolic acidosis (Lawn, 2005)</i> • <i>Albumin infusion for low serum albumin in preterm newborn infants (Jardine, 2004)</i> • <i>Transpyloric versus gastric tube feeding for preterm infants (McGuire, 2007)</i> • <i>Pre-discharge "car seat challenge" for preventing morbidity and mortality in preterm infants (Pilley, 2006)</i>

Other miscellaneous interventions

- *Thyroid hormone supplementation for the prevention of morbidity and mortality in infants undergoing cardiac surgery (Dimmick, 2004)*
- *Endotracheal intubation at birth for preventing morbidity and mortality in vigorous, meconium-stained infants born at term (Halliday, 2001)*
- *Clinical decision support systems for neonatal care (Tan, 2005)*

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