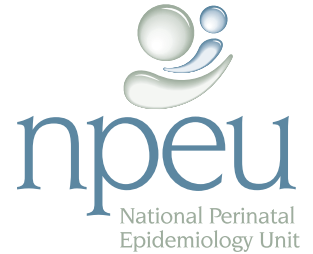




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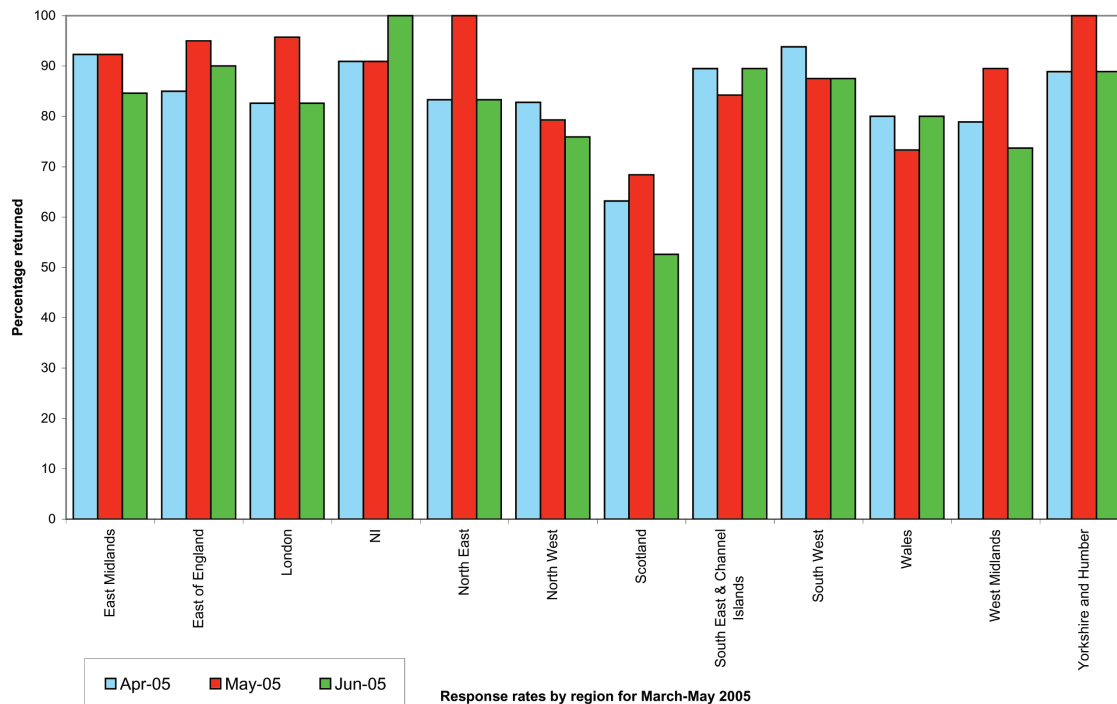


## Newsletter 2: July 05

### The national system to study rare disorders of pregnancy

Thank you once again to all of you for participating in UKOSS which has now been collecting data for four months. 227 of the 232 UK consultant led maternity units are now reporting to the system, a fantastic **98%**. Response rates have been over 80% for each month so far, and thanks to your efforts we have already identified the largest ever UK series of women undergoing peripartum hysterectomy.

The regional honours so far go to Northern Ireland and Yorkshire and Humber, where 93% of hospitals have returned cards each month, with East of England, East Midlands and South West (90%) close behind. Congratulations!



#### Disorder

#### Actual Number of cases

#### Expected Number of cases

Acute Fatty Liver	18	32
Amniotic Fluid Embolism	3	4
Antenatal Pulmonary Embolism	43	20
Eclampsia	106	100
Peripartum Hysterectomy	91	100
Tuberculosis	35	68

227 hospitals  
returned cards.  
296 cases reported

## Thanks to the following hospitals who have returned cards for March, April or May:

Aberdeen Maternity Hospital  
 Airedale General Hospital  
 Alexandra Hospital  
 Altnagalvin Area Hospital  
 Antrim Hospital  
 Arrowe Park Hospital  
 Ayrshire Central Hospital  
 Barnet General Hospital  
 Barnsley District General Hospital  
 Basildon Hospital  
 Bassetlaw District General Hospital  
 Bedford Hospital  
 Birmingham City Hospital  
 Birmingham Heartlands Hospital  
 Birmingham Women's Hospital  
 Borders General Hospital  
 Bradford Royal Infirmary  
 Bronglais Hospital  
 Burnley General Hospital  
 Caithness General Hospital  
 Calderdale Royal Hospital  
 Causeway Hospital  
 Chase Farm Hospital  
 Chelsea & Westminster Hospital  
 Cheltenham General Hospital  
 Chesterfield & North Derbyshire Royal Hospital  
 City General Hospital  
 City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Trust  
 Colchester General Hospital  
 Conquest Hospital  
 Countess of Chester Hospital  
 Craigavon Area Hospital  
 Cumberland Infirmary  
 Daisy Hill Hospital  
 Darent Valley Hospital  
 Darlington Memorial Hospital  
 Derby City General Hospital  
 Derriford Hospital  
 Dewsbury and District Hospital  
 Diana Princess of Wales Hospital  
 Doncaster Royal Infirmary  
 Dorset County Hospital  
 Dr Gray's Hospital  
 Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary  
 Ealing Hospital  
 East Surrey Hospital  
 Eastbourne District General Hospital  
 Epsom General Hospital  
 Erne Hospital  
 Fairfield General Hospital  
 Forth Park Hospital  
 Friarage Hospital  
 Frimley Park Hospital  
 Furness General Hospital  
 George Eliot Hospital  
 Glan Clwyd District General Hospital  
 Gloucestershire Royal Hospital  
 Good Hope Hospital  
 Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital  
 Harold Wood Hospital  
 Harrogate District Hospital  
 Heatherwood Hospital  
 Hereford County Hospital  
 Hexham General Hospital  
 Hillingdon Hospital  
 Hinchingsbrooke Hospital  
 Homerton Hospital  
 Horton Hospital  
 Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth  
 Huddersfield Royal Infirmary  
 Hull Royal Infirmary  
 Ipswich Hospital  
 James Cook University Hospital  
 James Paget Hospital  
 Jersey General Hospital  
 John Radcliffe Hospital  
 Kettering General Hospital  
 King George Hospital  
 Kings College Hospital  
 King's Mill Hospital  
 Kingston Hospital  
 Lagan Valley Hospital  
 Leeds General Infirmary  
 Leicester General Hospital  
 Leicester Royal Infirmary  
 Leighton Hospital  
 Lincoln County Hospital  
 Lister Hospital  
 Liverpool Women's Hospital  
 Llandough Hospital  
 Luton & Dunstable Hospital  
 Macclesfield District General Hospital  
 Maidstone General Hospital  
 Manor Hospital  
 Mater Infirmerum Hospital  
 Mayday University Hospital  
 Medway Maritime Hospital  
 Mid-Ulster Hospital  
 Milton Keynes General Hospital  
 Nevill Hall Hospital  
 New Cross Hospital  
 Newham General Hospital  
 Ninewells Hospital & Medical School  
 Nobles Hospital  
 Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital  
 North Devon District Hospital  
 North Hampshire Hospital  
 North Manchester General Hospital  
 North Middlesex Hospital  
 North Tyneside General Hospital  
 Northampton General Hospital  
 Northwick Park Hospital  
 Nottingham City Hospital  
 Pembury Hospital  
 Peterborough Maternity Unit  
 Pilgrim Hospital  
 Pontefract General Infirmary  
 Poole Hospital  
 Princess Alexandra Hospital  
 Princess Anne Hospital  
 Princess Elizabeth Hospital  
 Princess of Wales Hospital  
 Princess Royal Hospital  
 Princess Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow  
 Princess Royal University Hospital, Orpington  
 Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital  
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead  
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn  
 Queen Elizabeth Hospital, London  
 Queen Elizabeth II Hospital  
 Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital  
 Queen Mary's Hospital  
 Queen's Hospital  
 Queen's Medical Centre  
 Queen's Park Hospital  
 Raigmore Hospital  
 Rochdale Infirmary  
 Rosie Maternity Hospital  
 Rotherham District General Hospital  
 Royal Albert Edward Infirmary  
 Royal Alexandra Hospital  
 Royal Berkshire Hospital  
 Royal Bolton Hospital  
 Royal Cornwall Hospital  
 Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital  
 Royal Free Hospital  
 Royal Glamorgan Hospital  
 Royal Gwent Hospital  
 Royal Hampshire County Hospital  
 Royal Jubilee Maternity Service  
 Royal Lancaster Infirmary  
 Royal London Hospital  
 Royal Oldham Hospital  
 Royal Shrewsbury Hospital  
 Royal Surrey County Hospital  
 Royal Sussex County Hospital  
 Royal United Hospital  
 Royal Victoria Infirmary  
 Russells Hall Hospital  
 Salisbury District Hospital  
 Sandwell District General Hospital  
 Scarborough Hospital  
 Scunthorpe General Hospital  
 Sharoe Green Hospital  
 Simpson Centre for Reproductive Health  
 Singleton Hospital  
 Solihull Hospital  
 South Tyneside District Hospital  
 Southend Hospital  
 Southern General Hospital  
 Southmead Hospital  
 Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust  
 St George's Hospital  
 St Helier Hospital  
 St James's University Hospital  
 St John's Hospital  
 St John's Unit at Howden  
 St Mary's Hospital, London  
 St Mary's Hospital, Manchester  
 St Mary's Hospital, Newport  
 St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth  
 St Michael's Hospital  
 St Peter's Hospital  
 St Richard's Hospital  
 Staffordshire General Hospital  
 Stepping Hill Hospital  
 Stoke Mandeville Hospital  
 Tameside General Hospital  
 Taunton and Somerset Hospital  
 The Great Western Hospital  
 The Jessop Wing  
 The Portland Hospital  
 Torbay Hospital  
 Trafford General Hospital  
 Ulster Hospital  
 University College Hospital  
 University Hospital Lewisham  
 University Hospital of Hartlepool  
 University Hospital of North Durham  
 University Hospital of North Tees  
 University Hospital of Wales  
 Victoria Hospital  
 Walsgrave Hospital  
 Wansbeck General Hospital  
 Warrington Hospital  
 Warwick Hospital  
 Watford General Hospital  
 West Cumberland Hospital  
 West Middlesex University Hospital  
 West Suffolk Hospital  
 West Wales General Hospital  
 Western Isles Hospital  
 Wexham Park Hospital  
 Whipps Cross Hospital  
 Whiston Hospital  
 Whittington Hospital  
 William Harvey Hospital  
 Wishaw General Hospital  
 Witherby Hospital  
 Worcestershire Royal Hospital  
 Worthing Hospital  
 Wrexham Maelor Hospital  
 Wycombe General Hospital  
 Wythenshawe Hospital  
 Yeovil Women's Hospital  
 York Hospital  
 Ysbyty Gwynedd District General Hospital

## New Study – Myocardial Infarction in Pregnancy

A new study will be added to the card sent out in September 2005 (reporting cases from August 2005). Myocardial infarction in pregnancy is known to be associated with significant maternal and fetal mortality<sup>1</sup>. The widely quoted incidence estimate of 1 in 10,000 births is based on a study conducted in 1970. However, with current trends in lifestyle factors associated with cardiovascular disease and increasing age at childbirth, the incidence of MI during pregnancy may have increased. A recent retrospective database analysis from the USA<sup>2</sup> provided evidence that this is the case, identifying a threefold increase in incidence of myocardial infarction in pregnancy between 1991 and 2000. A systematic review of the case reports in 1996 identified a number of features of MI which differed during pregnancy<sup>1</sup>. Classic coronary risk factors appear to be the exception rather than the rule: 19% of patients had hypertension, 26% were smokers and only 2% had hyperlipidaemia. The authors of this review acknowledge the possible biases in favour of reporting of cases which are in some way unusual; a systematic prospective study on a population basis is thus clearly needed. This study will provide a national picture of the incidence of the disease, its epidemiology and management. We anticipate about 70 case reports per year nationally.

**Case definition:** All women in the UK identified as having acute myocardial infarction during pregnancy using the joint European Society of Cardiology/American College of Cardiology criteria:

EITHER A typical rise and gradual fall (troponin) or more rapid rise and fall (CK-MB) of biochemical markers of myocardial necrosis with at least one of the following: (a) ischaemic symptoms, (b) development of pathologic Q waves on the ECG, (c) ECG changes indicative of ischaemia (ST segment elevation or depression), or (d) coronary artery intervention (e.g. coronary angioplasty)

OR Pathological findings of an acute MI.

1. Roth A, Elkayam U. Ann Intern Med 1996; 125(9):751-62.
2. Ladner HE, Danielsen B, Gilbert WM. Obstet Gynecol 2005; 105(3):480-4.

### Don't Knows

***What do I do if I don't know or can't find the answer to a question on the data collection form?***

Please let us know by writing in section 7. That way we won't pester you with queries for the missing information!

## Spotlight on Data Collection Forms



### Choosing Controls

**Why do we need controls?** For many studies we are interested in identifying the risk factors that predispose certain women to a particular disease. This allows us to identify high risk women and institute appropriate preventive measures. In order to identify how important a particular factor is, we need to be able to compare how often

this factor is present in the affected women (cases) with the general population of pregnant women. However, for most of the factors we are investigating there is no routinely available population information about the frequency of the risk factor. In order to find this out, we collect information from a sample of women from the same population as the cases. These women are known as controls. Controls allow us to make comparison with the cases and to describe the features of the cases that are different from the controls.

**How do we choose controls?** There are many different ways of choosing controls. For the purpose of current studies we are using the most straightforward and practical method available. Control women are selected by choosing the two women who **delivered immediately before** the case. These two women should always be chosen regardless of their mode of delivery or any associated illnesses. By using this standard method in all situations, the information obtained should be representative of the UK population of pregnant women as a whole.



## New contact details

UKOSS has moved into the new Richard Doll Building at the University of Oxford. Our address is unchanged, but we have new phone numbers and email:

UKOSS  
National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit  
University of Oxford  
Old Road Campus  
Oxford  
OX3 7LF

Tel: 01865 289700  
Fax: 01865 289701

Email: [UKOSS@npeu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:UKOSS@npeu.ox.ac.uk)  
Web: [www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/UKOSS](http://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/UKOSS)

## Proposals for new studies

If you have any ideas for new UKOSS studies please contact us. Conditions studied should be important causes of maternal or perinatal morbidity or mortality, should have an incidence of fewer than one case per 2000 deliveries, and be suitable for study using descriptive or case control methodology. Guidelines for submitting study proposals are on the website at [http://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/UKOSS/index.php?content=survey\\_applications.inc](http://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/UKOSS/index.php?content=survey_applications.inc). If you have any queries please get in touch.

## Team Photo

Just so you can put faces to names (and voices) here are the UKOSS management team (L-R): Jenny Kurinczuk (Consultant Clinical Epidemiologist), Carole Harris (Administrator), Patsy Spark (Programmer), Marian Knight (Clinical Coordinator) and (below right) Peter Brocklehurst (NPEU Director).



## The Chocolate Box

Congratulations to Paula Schofield from Chesterfield who returned the first complete data collection form, and to Fran Harlow from Norwich who was a close second. Chocolates on their way when we can wrestle them from Carole's grasp...

## UKOSS Roadshows

Due to lack of demand and because you have all shown how fantastic you are at reporting, we have not organised any UKOSS roadshows. However, if anyone is interested in arranging a UKOSS presentation please get in touch.

Marian Knight: **01865 289727**  
Carole Harris: **01865 289714**

email: [UKOSS@npeu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:UKOSS@npeu.ox.ac.uk)  
web: [www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/UKOSS](http://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/UKOSS)