



Royal College of
Obstetricians
and Gynaecologists

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COVID-19 in Pregnancy Study – Latest Findings

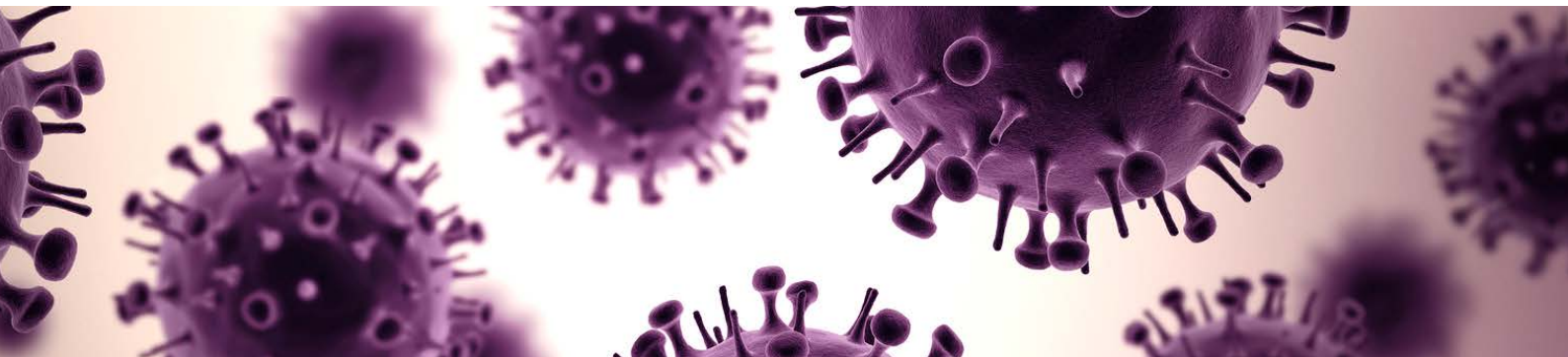
Thanks to the tireless work of our reporters, we have been able to continue publishing the latest research into COVID-19 in pregnancy. Our most recent publication compares the Alpha and Delta variant in terms of their impact on maternal infection and perinatal outcomes. The pre-print is now available to view online:

[Impact of SARS-CoV-2 variant on the severity of maternal infection and perinatal outcomes: Data from the UK Obstetric Surveillance System national cohort. \(Pre-Print\)](#)

We hope you have also seen the results we presented in May, describing risk factors, incidence and impact of COVID-19 infection in pregnant women and their babies:

[The incidence, characteristics and outcomes of pregnant women hospitalized with symptomatic and asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection in the UK from March to September 2020: A national cohort study using the UK Obstetric Surveillance System \(UKOSS\)](#)

Without the contribution of all our reporters across the UK we would not be able to undertake this vital research; we would like to **Thank You** all very much for your work.



Study Extensions

Due to the impact of the pandemic, the following studies have been extended, please note the new end dates:

Pregnancy following Bone Marrow Transplant - **31st December 2022**

Antithrombin/Protein C deficiency in pregnancy - **30th June 2022**

Our Newsletters and Annual Reports...

Instead of separate UKOSS newsletters and annual reports, we are trialling a new extended newsletter format. This allows us to bring you updates on our current studies as well as summarise our annual publications all in one place. We welcome any feedback from you about this new approach.



THIS MONTH

- Non-COVID studies – the latest numbers
- Our recent publications 2019 - 2021
- Meet the new members of the UKOSS team



Case report summary for current Non-COVID Studies up Until End of August 2021

Disorder	Actual number of reported cases	Data collection forms returned (%)	Expected number of confirmed cases
Amniotic Fluid Embolism	285	275 (96)	199
Fontan and Pregnancy	28	14 (50)	51
Antithrombin/Protein C Deficiency in Pregnancy	69	53 (77)	271
Pregnancy Following Bone Marrow Transplant	19	17 (89)	84
New Therapies for Influenza	1	1 (100)	84
Pregnancy in Women with Known Cardiomyopathy	13	3 (23)	34
Re-Exploration after Caesarean Section	27	12 (44)	68
Thrombotic Microangiopathy Associated Pregnancy Acute Kidney Injury	0	0	27

Re-Exploration after Caesarean Section – Selecting Controls

Each case reported for the Re-exploration after Caesarean Section study requires two control cases. Please complete forms for the two women whose caesarean births were immediately before the delivery of the woman who had a re-exploration or laparotomy.



Chocolate Box

Chocolates this month go to **Dr Albert Demitry and team, Birmingham City Hospital**, for consistent monthly reporting and prompt submission of forms. Chocolates also go to the following reporters for their prompt data submission: **Matthew Milner and Bev Hammond, LWNC**

Caroline Burnett and Dorothy Hutchinson, Scunthorpe General Hospital

A message from our colleagues at the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit...

SINEPOST

SARS-CoV-2 infection in neonates or in pregnancy: Outcomes at 18 months

SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Neonates or in Pregnancy: Outcomes at 18 months (SINEPOST) Study

The NPEU is working with the University of Bristol to deliver the SINEPOST study, a prospective national population-based cohort study investigating the impact of neonatal or antenatal exposure to SARS-CoV-2 infection on infants' development and social-emotional outcomes (through parent/caregiver-completed questionnaires). Infants with antenatal exposure will be drawn from cases reported to the UKOSS COVID-19 study, so if your site has been identified as one with eligible infants, the SINEPOST team may be in touch with you or your R&D department. They are keen to bring as many of these sites on board as possible, and appreciate any assistance from UKOSS reporters. For more information please visit: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/translational-health-sciences/research/neurosciences/research/neurology/sinepost-study>



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Completed Studies in 2019, 2020 and 2021

Data collection for the following studies has now closed and data analysis is underway. If you have reported cases to us for these studies and not yet sent the data collection forms please do send them to us as soon as possible, to ensure our dataset is complete. Below are the interim case numbers as well as links to the study protocols:

COVID Vaccination (2021): 518 cases reported, 473 data collection forms received (91%).

EPPROM (2021): 501 cases reported, 403 data collection forms received (80%).

Cirrhosis in Pregnancy (2020): 67 cases reported, 58 data collection forms received (87%).

Peripartum Hyponatraemia (2020): 98 cases reported, 79 data collection forms received (81%).

Diabetic Ketoacidosis (2020): 91 cases reported, 84 data collection forms received (92%).

Impacted Fetal Head at Caesarean Section (2019): 660 cases reported, 575 data collection forms received (87%).

High Neuraxial Block (2019): 122 cases reported, 94 data collection forms received (77%).

Near-miss suicide in pregnancy (2019): 11 cases reported, 6 data collection forms received (55%).

Not a UKOSS reporter? Why not become one!

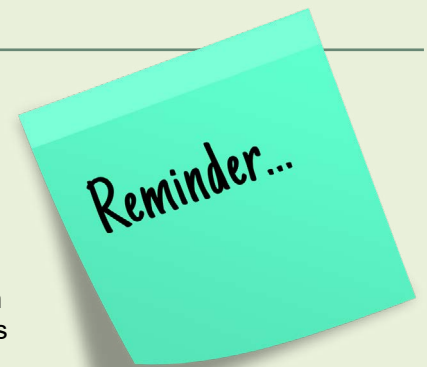
Many different types of clinical and research staff can become UKOSS reporters and you can use reporting as part of your **GMC revalidation evidence or NMC Continual Professional Development**. Just take a look at what our current/past reporters have to say...

"The topics chosen are important, clinically relevant or rare. By collating information across the country, useful recommendations can be used by all clinicians providing care. I have found it a useful educational resource for my ongoing personal development." – Sarah Davies, Lancashire Women and Newborn Centre

"It does give a sense of worth, the work we do as reporters actually seems to make a difference, unlike so many things we get involved in these days. The data gets used and informs clinical practice..." – Bill Martin, retired Consultant in Fetal/Maternal Medicine.

Some gentle reminders from us...

- Please send data collection forms to us by email rather than post as we cannot always process posted forms.
- Please make sure you keep a list of the cases you have reported and the patient linked to each case. This is essential, as we are not permitted to keep a patient key.
- If you change role or retire please ensure you let us know, and please pass on your case list to another reporter, as we may need to follow-up on the cases you have reported.
- If you report a case of COVID and the patient was admitted to critical care, it is essential that you inform us of the duration the patient spent on critical care.
- To ensure we capture all eligible cases for our studies, we recommend that your site has at least one of each of the following reporters: obstetrician, midwife, anaesthetist and perinatal risk manager. If you think your site needs more reporters please contact us so we can assist.





UKOSS Publications from 2019, 2020 and 2021

The UK Obstetric Surveillance System continues to facilitate vital research into numerous different areas of maternal, fetal and infant health. If you have not already, do take a look at the papers published in 2019, 2020 and 2021:

2019:

Risk factors, management, and outcomes of amniotic fluid embolism: A multicountry, population-based cohort and nested case-control study

Surveillance of congenital Zika syndrome in England and Wales: methods and results of laboratory, obstetric and paediatric surveillance

The INOSS study of uterine rupture: a descriptive multi-country population based study

Selecting pregnant or postpartum women with suspected pulmonary embolism for diagnostic imaging: the DiPEP diagnostic study with decision-analysis modelling

2020:

Characteristics and outcomes of pregnant women admitted to hospital with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection in UK: national population based cohort study

The incidence, maternal, fetal and neonatal consequences of single intrauterine fetal death in monozygotic twins: A prospective observational UKOSS study

Anaphylaxis in pregnancy: a population-based multinational European study

Frequency and management of maternal infection in health facilities in 52 countries (GLOSS): a 1-week inception cohort study

2021:

Impact of SARS-CoV-2 variant on the severity of maternal infection and perinatal outcomes: Data from the UK Obstetric Surveillance System national cohort. (Pre-Print)

A total blood volume or more transfused during pregnancy or after childbirth: Individual patient data from six international population-based observational studies

The incidence, characteristics and outcomes of pregnant women hospitalized with symptomatic and asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection in the UK from March to September 2020: A national cohort study using the UK Obstetric Surveillance System (UKOSS)

Management of major obstetric hemorrhage prior to peripartum hysterectomy and outcomes across nine European countries

Pregnancy outcomes following different types of bariatric surgery: A national cohort study

For a full list of all papers published since UKOSS began, please see our website:

<https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/ukoss/publications-ukoss/results>



As you are aware, data collection for our COVID-19 in Pregnancy study has now been extended until 31st March 2022. Thank you to all our reporters who continue to report cases for this study. Please make sure you report all patients that meet the criteria: any pregnant woman admitted to hospital with confirmed COVID-19. The admission must be at least overnight, and the positive test must have been within 7 days prior to the admission (or during the admission).

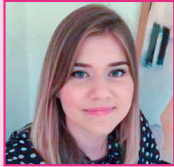
Meet our two new UKOSS team members...

Kudzai Chinjekure – UKOSS & BAPS-CASS Administrative Assistant

Kudzai completed a biomedical sciences degree at Cardiff University during which she had the opportunity to do cancer research at the University of Sydney. Prior to her studies, she worked as a theatre support assistant at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, a role which gave her a deeper insight into the NHS and sparked her passion for public health. Kudzai is excited to join the team this month as an Administrative Assistant.



Hatty Goddard – UKOSS & BAPS-CASS Programme Manager (Maternity Cover for Melanie O'Connor)



What does your new role involve?

I manage the administration of all our UKOSS studies, ensuring we collect all the data we need in time for analysis. This involves liaising with reporters and study investigators, monitoring data submission and working with our programmers to make sure we have all the tools we need for effective data entry and analysis.

Can you give a brief overview of your career to date?

Until recently, I was working as part of the MBRRACE-UK team, also here at the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit. I started as a 3-month temp in 2017 and 4 years later I am still here! Before the NPEU, I studied psychology at university and worked within administration and customer service.

How have you found your first few months working on UKOSS?

It has been very busy, so I did have to hit the ground running, but I have the advantage of having worked with similar systems and processes in my previous role here. It also really helps that I already know the NPEU team so I know who to go to when I need help! The COVID in Pregnancy study of course takes up most of our time at the moment and my next challenge will be to plan how to address any missing data before the next phase of data analysis.

What do you enjoy most in your new role?

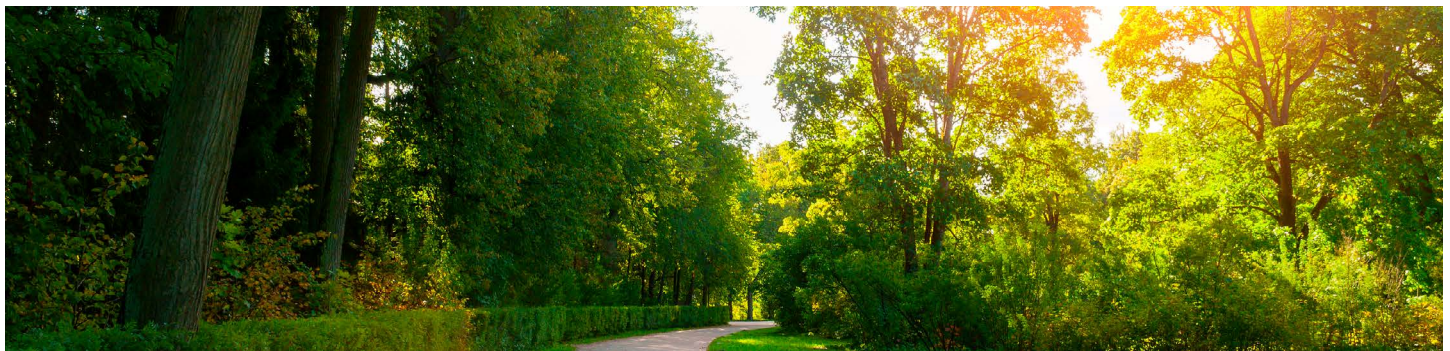
I really value being able to work with NHS staff; all of our reporters work so hard and are always a pleasure to talk to. I also enjoy learning about the medical conditions that we are currently studying and feeling that I am playing a role within the vital research that UKOSS facilitates.

What has been the biggest challenge in your new role?

The biggest challenge so far has been managing the COVID study, as it is so much larger than any of our other studies... more than 10,000 cases now. We are acutely aware of the added burden that COVID has put on clinical staff, but of course we also need our reporters to keep on top of reporting cases so we know our data are up-to-date. I wish we had the budget to send out thank you chocolates to all our reporters who have worked so hard to continue reporting throughout the pandemic!

What are your interests/hobbies outside of your working life?

I find cooking very relaxing so my favourite thing is to try out new recipes... I recently brought some homemade bread into the unit, which went down well! I also love to go cycling in the countryside and I am part of a book club that started up during the pandemic. We are currently reading Wuthering Heights... it's heavy going but at least I will be able to say I've read it!



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