

P03 SH . Role of Intermediate PPC in the reduction of Preterm Births

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Introduction

Preterm birth is the most important single determinant of adverse infant outcome, in terms of both survival and quality of life.

Prevention and treatment of preterm labour is important, not as an end in itself, but as a means of reducing adverse events for the child.

The Intermediate Risk Clinic:

- Set up in October 2021 and ran by Specialist Midwife Sonographers
- Runs alongside Consultant High risk PPC
- Alternate weeks, morning sessions, typically 9 patients
- Criteria:
 - Previous delivery by caesarean section at full dilatation
 - History of cervical excision; 1 or more loop (LLETZ) or cone biopsy

Methods

- 123 patients were identified from the Intermediate PPC data register, 111 consented to/engaged with the service.
- Data on age, parity, investigations and outcomes were collected and analysed.
- 12 month period- Oct 21-Sept 22

Standards:

- To determine whether the newly set up dedicated Intermediate clinic's guidelines are followed
- To assess the effectiveness of PPC Intermediate
- To identify any further areas for improvement

Results

Of the scans performed:

- 86.5 % of the patients had normal Cervical scans and were reassured and discharged.
- 13.5%(15 patients) were referred to High risk Consultant PPC and seen same day
- 6.2% were discharged following another scan
- 7.3% went on to have intervention needing Progesterone and only 1 of 15 needed suture
- 9 babies were born pre-term- 6 CS and 3 loops
- Gestation at delivery- Loopsx3 all >34 weeks
- CS-26-35 weeks- Table 1
- 5 babies were admitted to NNU
- All 9 babies eventually went home
- Of those 9 only 7 had been seen in PPC, 2 declined

Procoedure	Gest	Delivery Type	NNU	Home
C/S Fully	26+5	SOL	√	√
C/S Fully	28+4	Emc/s PET	√	√
C/S Fully	29+3	SOL	√	√
Prev prem deliv	30+1	Emc/s PET	√	√
C/S Fully	34+2	Declined PPC, SOL	√	√
C/S Fully	35+2	Declined PPC, SOL	x	√
LLETZ	35+4	SOL	x	√
LLETZ	36+2	Emc/s covid	x	√
LLETZ	36+5	Cat 3 C/S	x	√

Conclusion

- PTD rate in the intermediate cohort: 8%
- 92% (102 patients) delivered at term
- 8%(9 patients) delivered preterm
- Only 3.6% (4 patients) delivered <34 weeks
- Only 1.8%(2 patients) delivered following spontaneous onset preterm labour. The other 2 were due to obstetric reasons.
- Both PTD, 34 weeks were in the Caesarean section group
- There was no major morbidity in any of the babies from this cohort
- No patient form Cervical excision group delivered <34 weeks
- The intermediate PPC Clinic is supplying vital support in helping the Trust meet SBL recommendations.
- It is also providing support to the Consultant Led PPC clinic, allowing the Consultant to see those women who are at a much higher risk of Pre-term birth.

Recommendations

- All women to receive an information leaflet with appointment letter.
- UHB Figures to be added to the leaflet to give more sustenance
- To deliver education and awareness of the Intermediate PPC clinics to maternity staff so women receive the correct information and appropriate referrals are made (overlap with punch and cold /laser and LLETZ).
- Ensure a timely referral and booking of appointment between 18-23 weeks. Some women were seen before 18 weeks and a follow up appointment was given. Some were seen after 23 weeks due to late booking and/or referral.

Food for Thought:

- 13 women came to Intermediate PPC after having a LLETZ procedure which was then followed by at least one Term delivery prior to this pregnancy referral. Of those women none went on to have a pre-term birth.
- Do we need to see these group of ladies? Guidelines are not clear.

