



Saving Babies Lives V 2 National Developments

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London
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AMBITION

In November 2015, the Secretary of State of Health announced a national ambition to halve the rate of stillbirths, maternal and neonatal deaths and brain injuries that occur during or soon after birth by 2030. The ambition was subsequently extended to include reducing preterm birth from 8% to 6% and the timeframe revised to 2025.

The journey to a national maternity safety ambition





National Maternity Ambition

To reduce the rate of stillbirths, neonatal and maternal deaths, and brain injuries occurring during or soon after birth by 50% by 2025; and 20% by 2020

Maternity Transformation Programme

A cross-system programme set up to implement the vision set out in the National Maternity Review. NHSI is leading workstream 2 'Promoting good practice for safer care' with NHSE

How?

- 1) **Roll out of SBLCB V 2 & also New Maternity Networks**
- 2) **Focus on Preterm birth**
- 3) **Continue roll out of Better Births – especially “seamless care” & all Trusts be part of National Maternal and Neonatal Health Safety Collaborative.**
- 4) **Continuity of carer**
- 5) **NHSIB using Perinatal Mortality Review tool**
- 6) **Digital records**
- 7) **Better perinatal mental health care**
- 8) **Neonatal care**

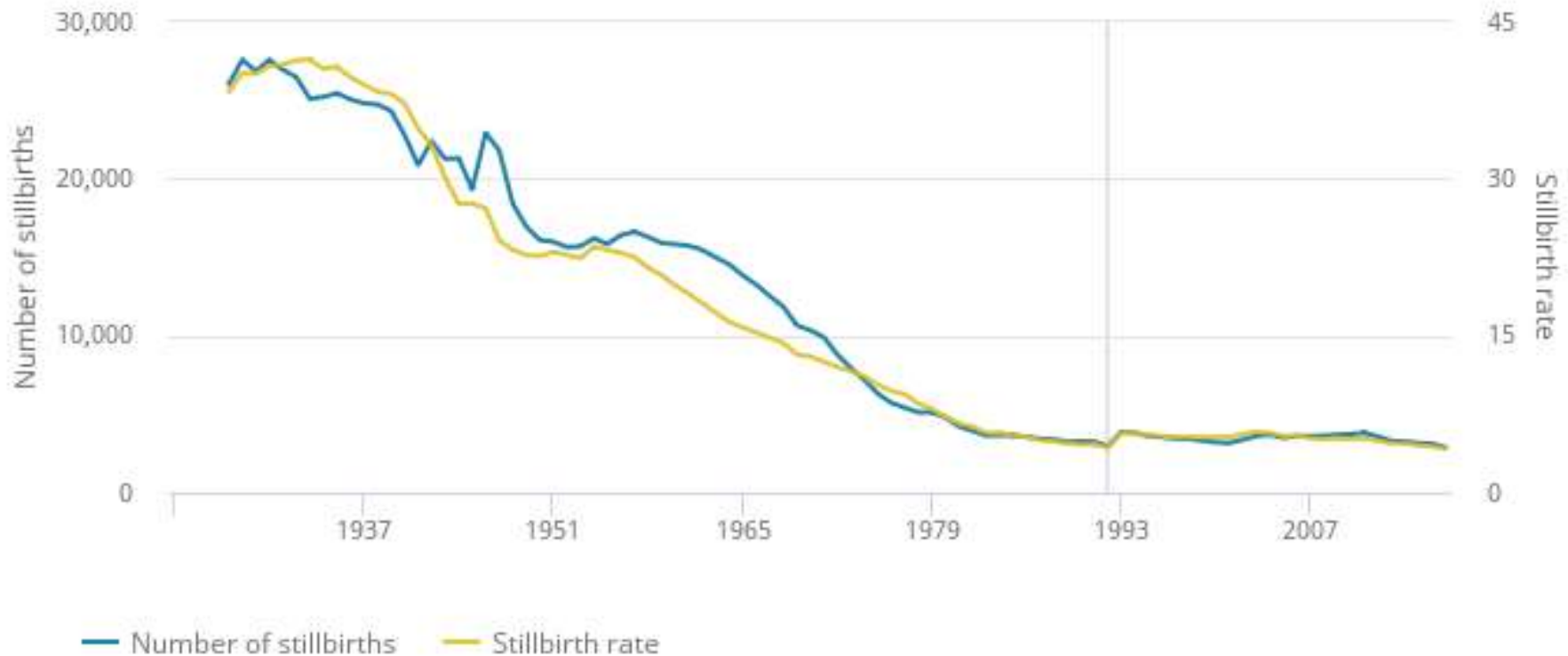
As well as....NHS Staff

The “NHS is supporting a culture of multidisciplinary team working and learning, vital for safe, high-quality maternity care”.

&

“Working in the NHS demands the highest levels of skill and compassion, and the NHS attracts some of the very best people from home and abroad. But, over the past decade, *workforce growth has not kept up with need, and the way staff have been supported to work has not kept up with the changing requirements of patients.*”

2017 – Lowest SB rate on record



1927 – 2017 ONS

1964: 16.3/1000

2017: 4.1/1000 (total births)

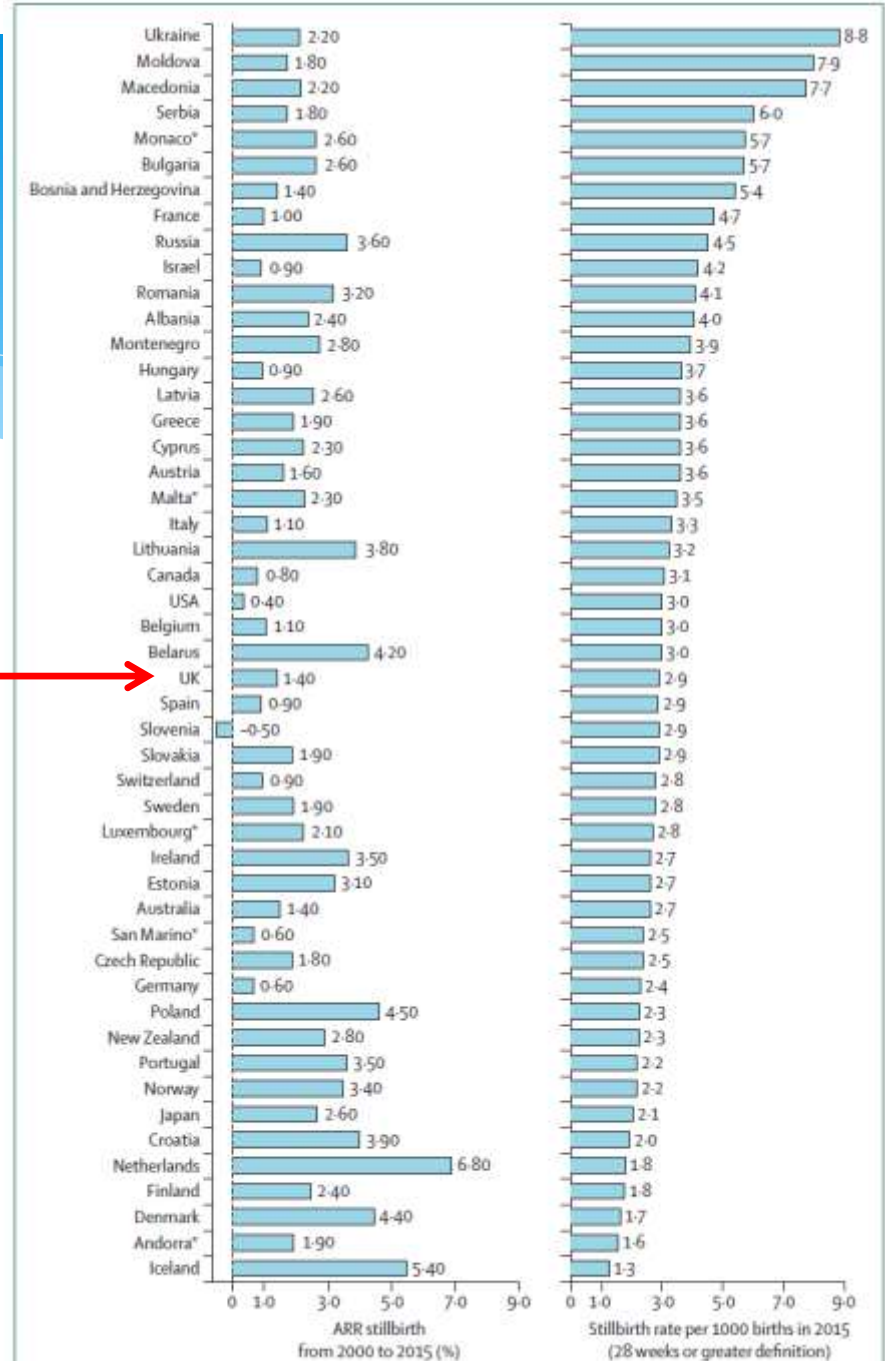
Stillbirth rates are still too high:

- In 2017, 1 in every 225 births ended in a stillbirth
- 3200 babies were stillborn in 2017 in UK
- 9 babies stillborn every day
- Croatia, Poland and Czech Republic have lower SB rates.

Stillbirth rates in the UK

- * In 2015
- * 24th/49 listed HIC
- * 19th/38 Europe

Annual rate of reduction since 2000 only 1.4%



How does this compare to cot-death?

SIDS In Numbers. Reduce the risk.



1 per **3,200**

The current unexplained infant death rate in the UK for live births.



240

SIDS claims the lives of approximately 240 babies every year in the UK: that's around 5 babies a week



50%



Sharing a room with your baby can halve the risk of SIDS



An infant placed on their front to sleep is up to 6 times more at risk of SIDS than one placed on their back

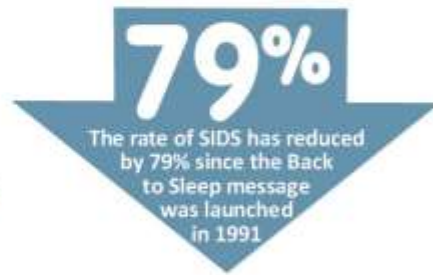
85%

Around 85% of SIDS happen in the first 6 months of life



79%

The rate of SIDS has reduced by 79% since the Back to Sleep message was launched in 1991



Babies born at low birth weight are over 3 times more at risk of SIDS than babies born at a normal birth weight

50x



Sleeping on a sofa with a baby can increase the chance of SIDS by up to 50 times



52%

Boys are more at risk of SIDS than girls – nearly 52% of unexplained infant deaths were boys in 2016



3x

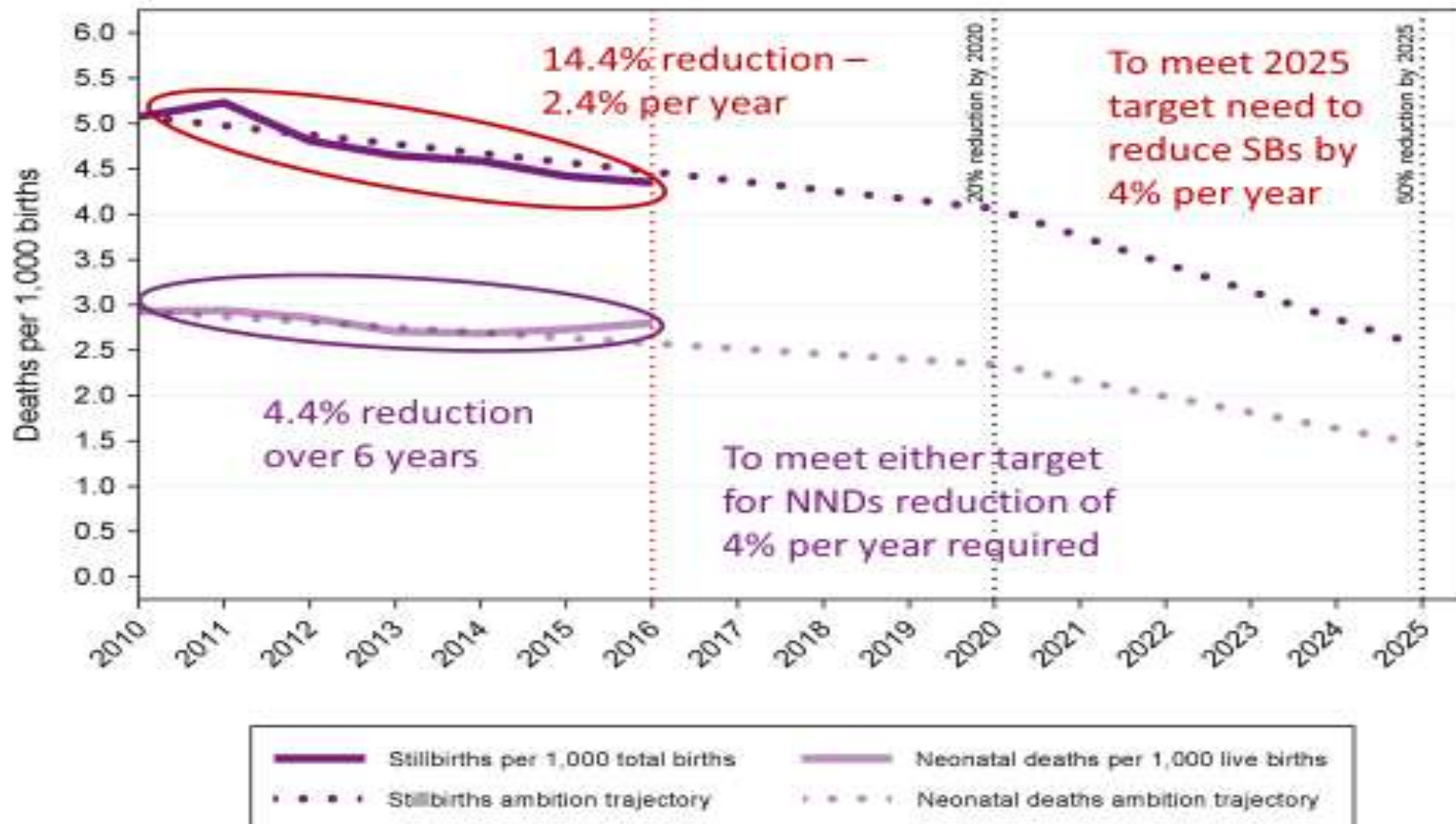
In 2016 the rate of SIDS was three times higher among mothers under 20 compared to all other age groups



1/3

Over a third of SIDS deaths could be avoided if no women smoked during pregnancy

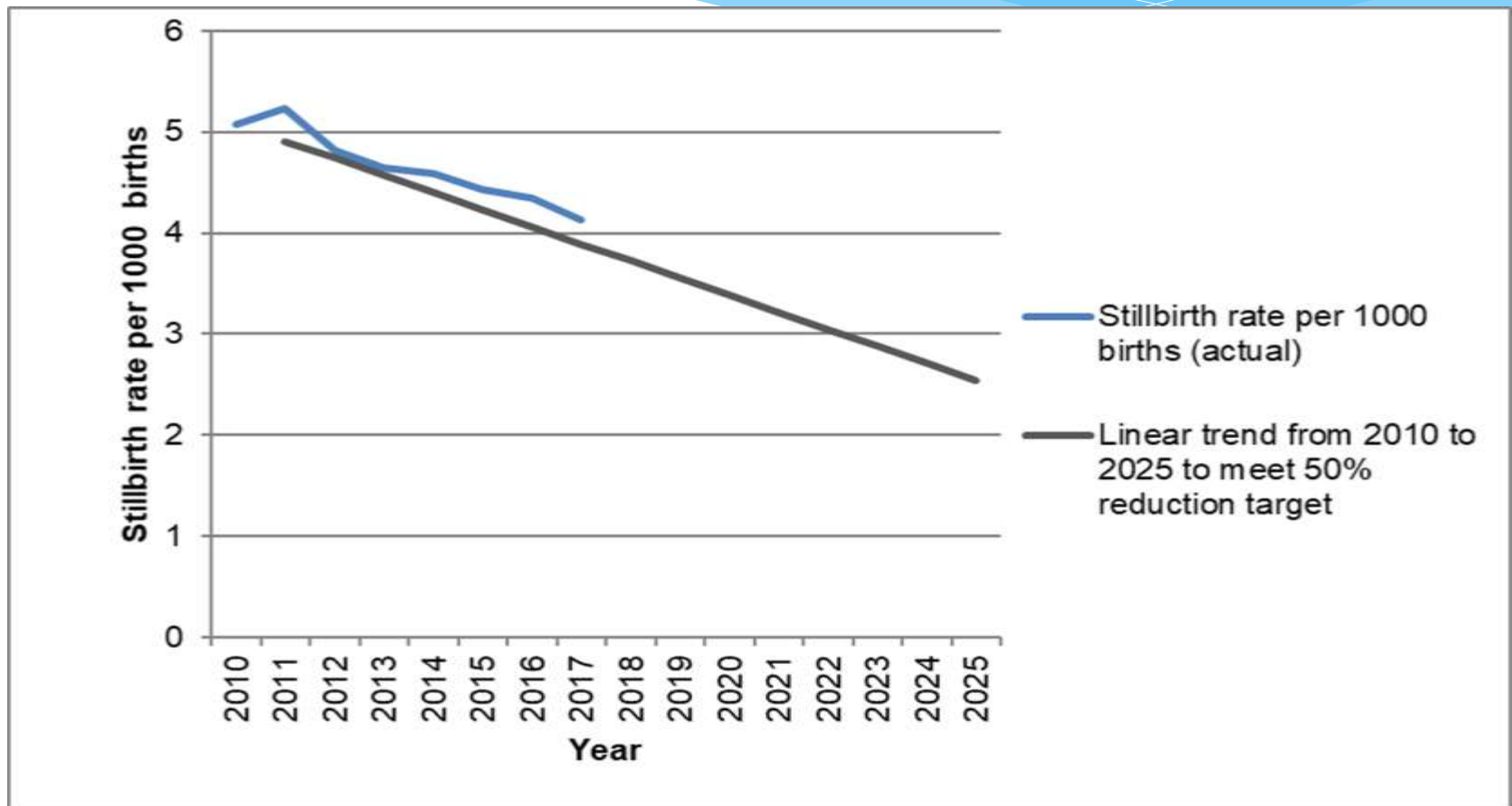
Stillbirth and neonatal mortality rates, England, 2010-2016 and National Maternity Safety Ambition trajectories



Data source: ONS



Stillbirth rate against linear trend required to meet a 50% reduction by 2025



MBRRACE – October 2019 – Highlights:

The stillbirth rate for the UK in 2017 has reduced to 3.74 per 1,000 total births from 4.20 in 2013, which represents 350 fewer stillbirths.

The largest fall in stillbirth and neonatal death rates is seen in term babies (37+0 to 41+6 weeks gestational age), accounting for half of the reduction seen in these rates.

There has been a substantial reduction in stillbirths recorded as having an intrapartum cause in the CODAC classification of cause of death from 189 (5.8%) stillbirths in 2014 to 51 (1.8%) stillbirths in 2017.

MBRRACE 2019 No 1 Recommendation:

In order to achieve the various UK Governments' ambitions renewed efforts need to be focused on implementing existing national initiatives to reduce stillbirths and continue the slow but steady decline in neonatal mortality rates observed since 2013. **Particular emphasis should be placed on reducing preterm birth.**

Cost

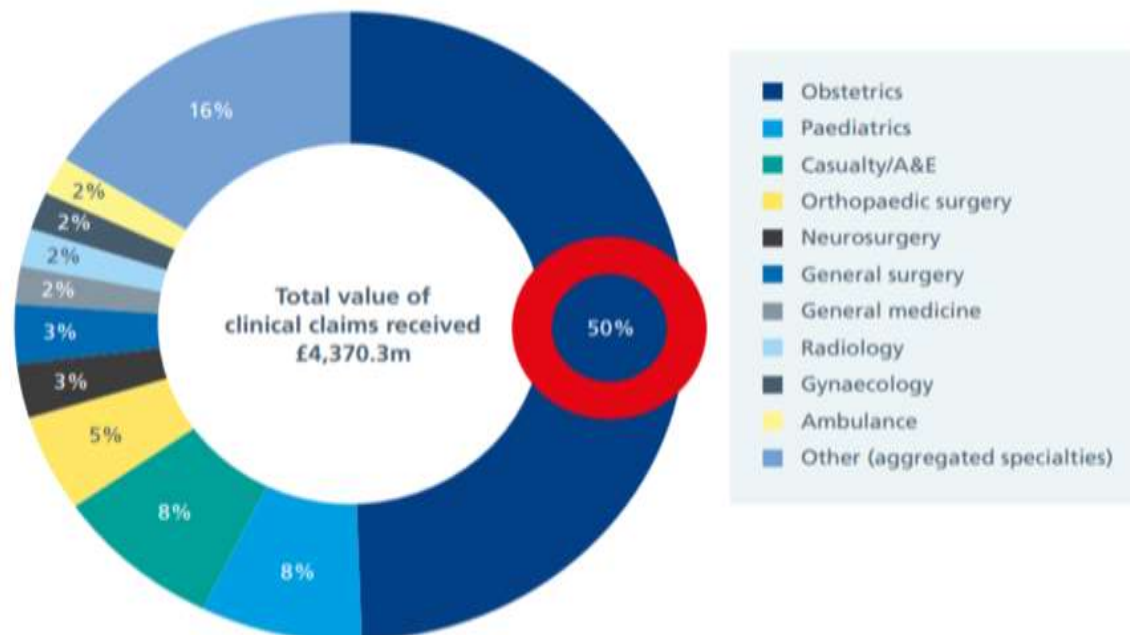
Rising cost of claims

NHSR 2016/17

Cost to families

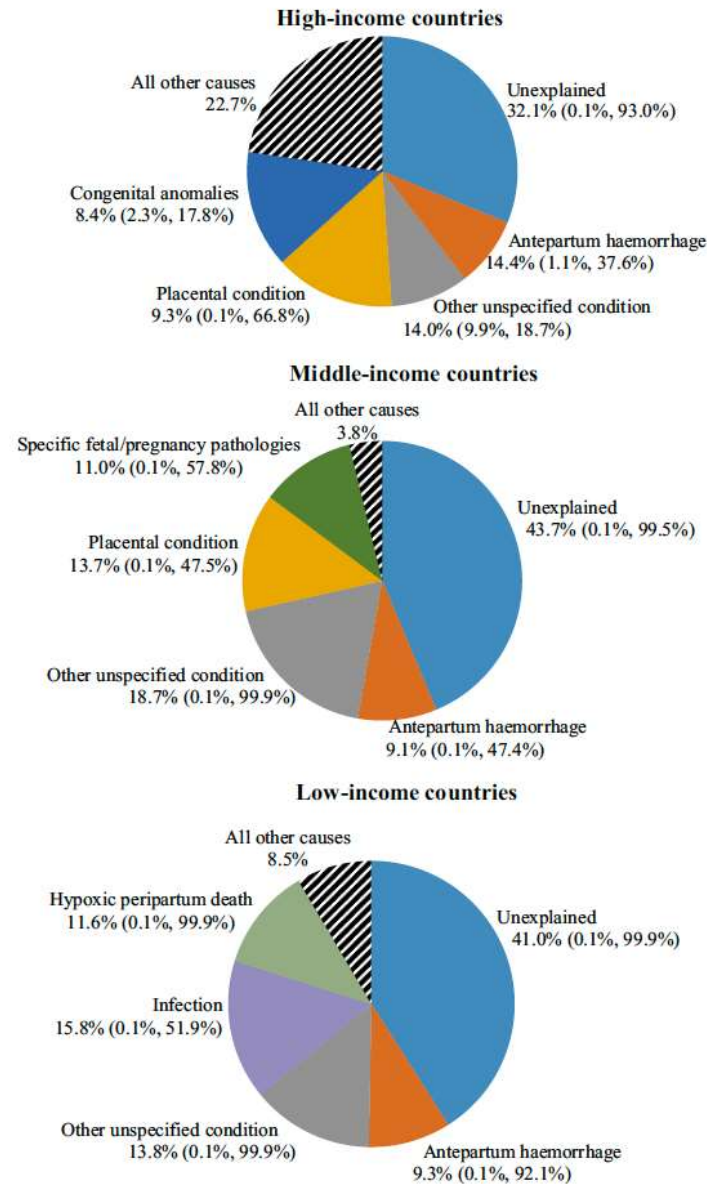
Cost to staff

Need to make maternity services safer



Causes of Stillbirth

N = 454533



Reinebrant et al 2018

Version 1 of Saving Babies' Lives Care Bundle 2016

Brought together four key elements of care that are recognised as evidence-based and/or key practice:

- 1. Reducing smoking in pregnancy**
- 2. Risk assessment and surveillance for fetal growth restriction**
- 3. Raising awareness of reduced fetal movements**
- 4. Effective fetal monitoring during labour**



RESULTS of SBLCB V1



- * Potentially 1,106 fewer stillbirths across England between 2015- 2017.
- * 98% of responding providers are carrying out activities from all elements (31% fully implementing all the activities).
- * **Stillbirth rates declined by 20% in the participating Trusts**
- * Detection of SGA babies during the antenatal period increased by 59% in participating Trusts during the implementation period
- * Increased intervention rates and number of USS
- * Latest survey - 98% of responding providers are carrying out activities from all elements however only 31% of the responding providers are fully implementing all the activities

Why version 2?

Why SBLCB v 2?

- * It could be better = less intervention
- * SBLCBv2 will also try addresses implementation difficulties of v1
- * SBLCBv2 contains additional elements and an additional focus on **PREVENTION**
- * This alone will not be enough to achieve national targets

Achieving the national ambition - reducing inequality

Young parents

Both young parents may:

- have poor health and emotional wellbeing
- be vulnerable to risk
- fear being judged
- have poor diet

1/3 less
likely to
breastfeed



3 times
more likely
to smoke



More likely to:

- book for care late
- miss antenatal appointments



3 times as likely to
have poor mental
health

Smoking is the main
modifiable risk factor in
pregnancy

Geographical variation:
2% - 26.6% SATOD

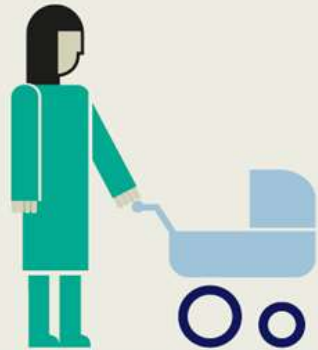
FNP RCT: 56% smoking
in late pregnancy

Smoking during
pregnancy causes
up to **2,200**
premature births,
5,000 miscarriages
and **300** perinatal
deaths every year
in the UK



Up to 20% of women
develop a mental
health problem during
pregnancy or within a
year of giving birth –
this can have
significant and long-
term consequences

Pregnancies in areas of
highest social deprivation
50% more likely to end in
stillbirth or neonatal death



Mothers who are young, white, from routine and manual professions and who left education early are least likely to breastfeed⁶

Continuity of Carer

Evidence: Improving safer care and quality of care (Prof Sandall)

17,674 mothers and babies

Women who received models of midwife-led continuity of care



7x more likely to be attended at birth by a known midwife



16% less likely to lose their baby



19% less likely to lose their baby before 24 weeks



15% less likely to have regional analgesia



24% less likely to experience pre-term birth



16% less likely to have an episiotomy



A trend towards a cost-saving effect for midwife-led continuity care compared to other care models. Depends on caseload size.

Sandall, Soltani, Gates, Shennan, Devane. Midwife-led continuity models versus other models of care for childbearing women. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2016, Issue 4. Art. No.: CD004667

Linking the prevention agenda with the safety agenda

Target areas to enable achievement of the national ambition

Teenage pregnancy

In 2016 babies born to mothers under 20 years had a 24% higher rate of stillbirth and a 56% higher rate of infant mortality

Smoking in pregnancy

causes up to 2,200 premature births, 5,000 miscarriages & 300 perinatal deaths per year

Folic acid

In 2011/12, only 31% of women took folic acid before pregnancy (intake of which reduces risk of neural tube defects)

Mental health

20% of women experience mental health issues in pregnancy and the first year after birth and up to 10% of fathers suffer from postnatal depression. Suicide is one of the commonest causes of maternal mortality

Long-term conditions

Two thirds of maternal deaths occurred in those with pre-existing physical or mental health problems

Partnership development of SBLCBV.2

NICE National Institute for Health
and care Excellence



Saving Babies' Lives 2

5 Elements:

- 1 Smoking
- 2 Growth restriction
- 3 Fetal movements
- 4 Intrapartum monitoring
- 5 **Preterm birth prevention**

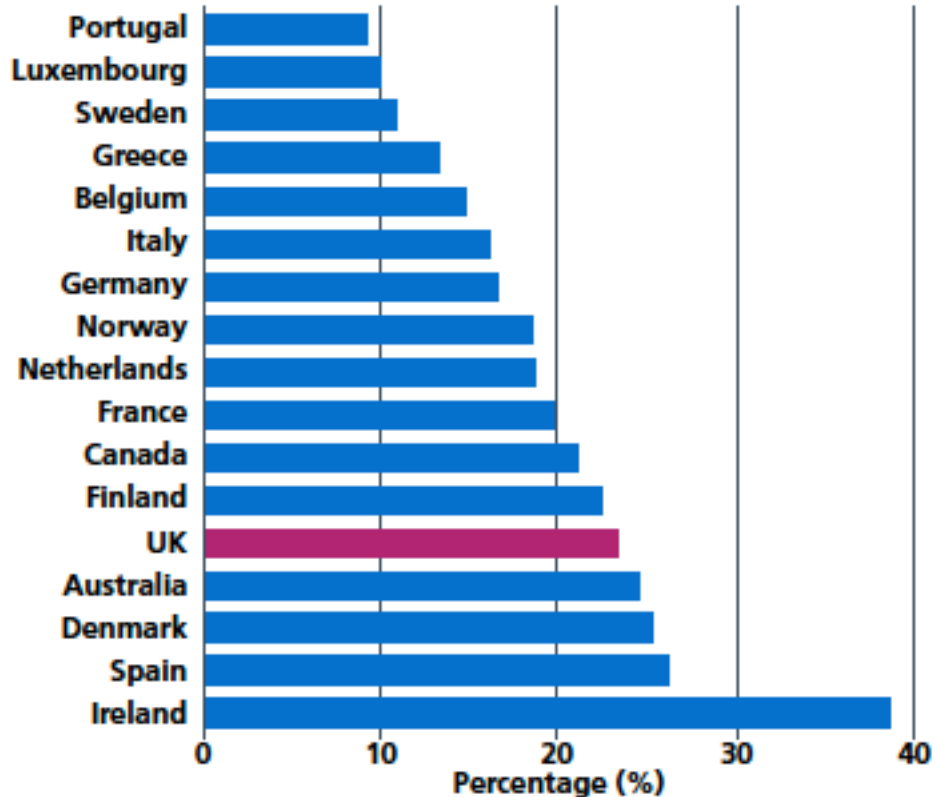


Saving Babies' Lives Version Two

A care bundle for reducing perinatal mortality

Element 1 Smoking

Figure 10: Smoking at any time during pregnancy in the UK and EU15+, 2015.



Source: Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. Child Health in 2030: Comparisons with other wealthy countries. October 2018.

Element 1 Smoking

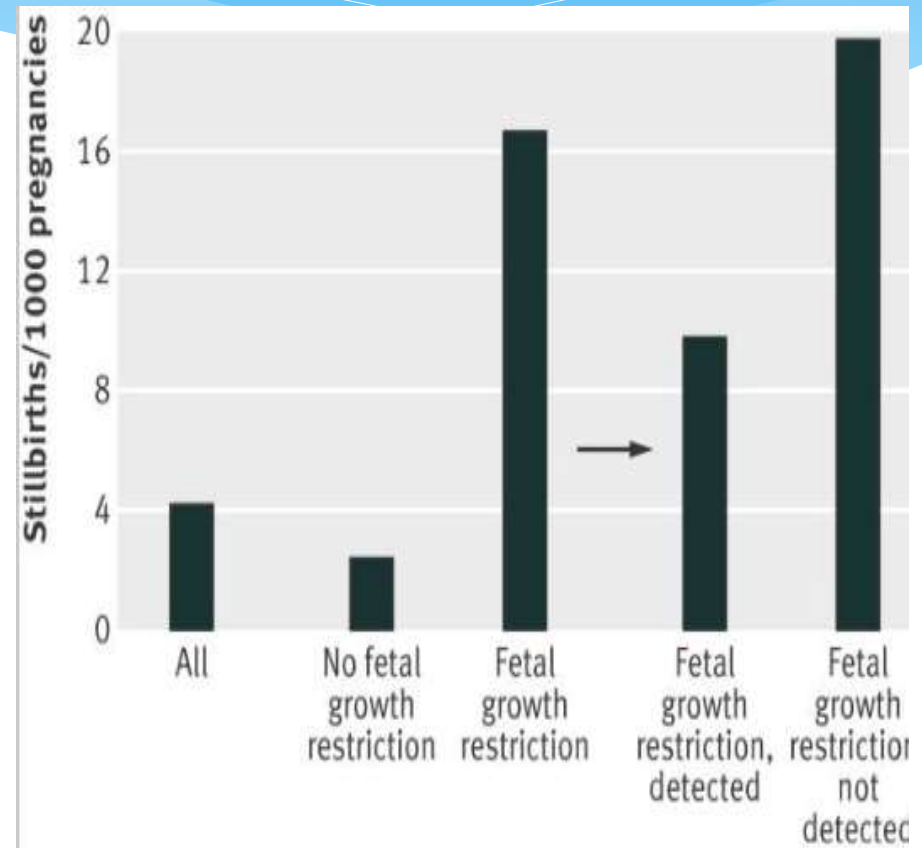
Table 3: Impact of smoking in pregnancy.

	Maternal smoking	Second-hand smoke exposure
Low birth weight	Average 250g lighter	Average 30-40g lighter
Stillbirth	Double the likelihood	Increased risk
Miscarriage	24-32% more likely	Possible risk
Preterm birth	27% more likely	Increased risk
Heart defects	50% more likely	Increased risk
Sudden infant death	3 times more likely	45% more likely

Source: Action on Smoking and Health. Smoking in pregnancy challenge group. Review of the Challenge 2018. July 2018.

Element 2: Fetal growth restriction (FGR)

- * FGR is associated with stillbirth in ~40% cases
- * If we can detect it then we can potentially reduce the rate of stillbirth
- * High detection rates and subsequent appropriate management of detected FGR should reduce stillbirth



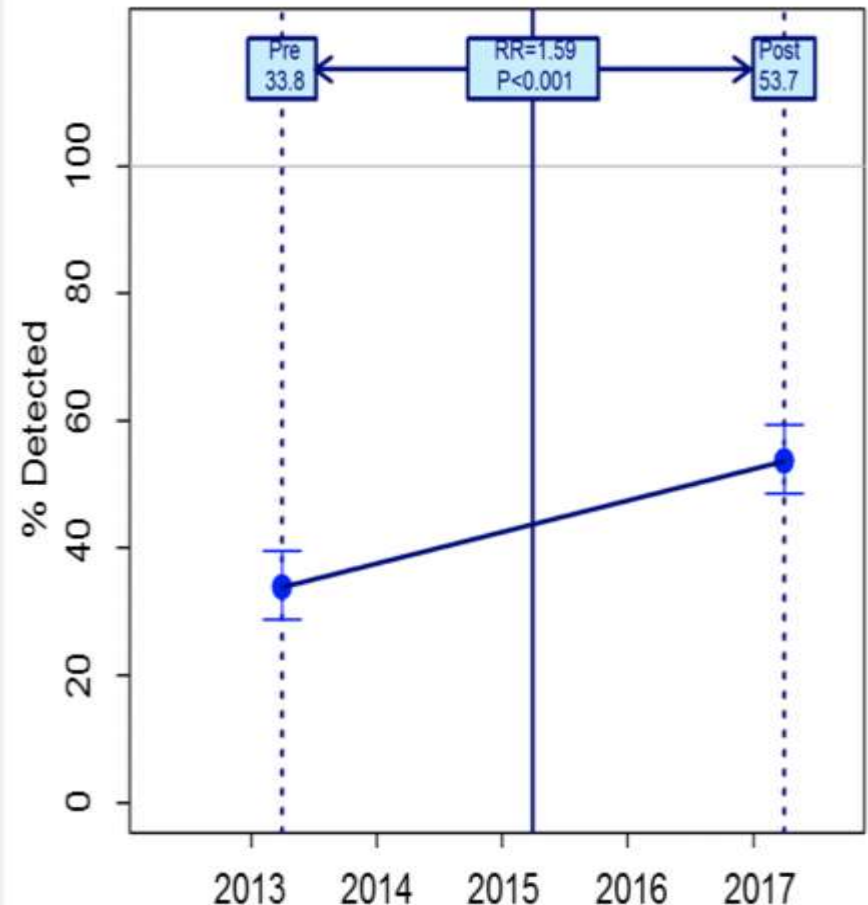
Saving Babies Lives Version 1

Fetal Growth Restriction

1. Use of SBLCB algorithm (or RCOG algorithm) for risk classification
2. For high-risk women (as per RCOG Green Top Guideline), fetal growth assessed using serial ultrasound and estimated fetal weight plotted on chart
3. For low-risk women (as per RCOG Green Top Guideline), fetal growth assessed using symphysis fundal height
4. Ongoing audit of SGA birth rates, antenatal detection rates on local dashboard or similar
5. Ongoing case-note audit of 'missed' SGA cases

Outcomes (Spire report)

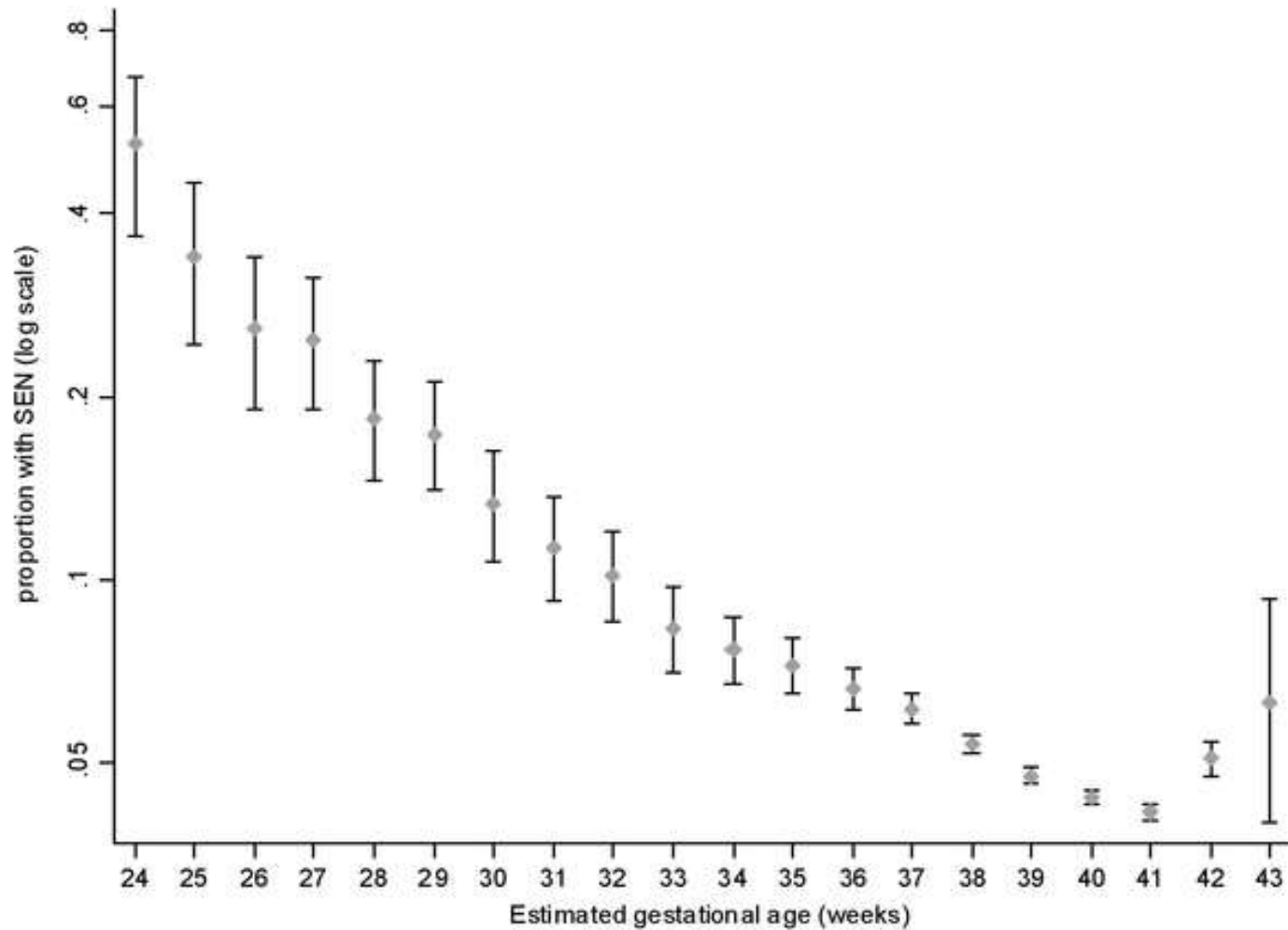
- * SGA detection rates increased from 33.8% to 53.7%
- * In early adopter trusts
 - * SFH plotting increased from 35% to 48%
 - * EFW plotting increased from 25% to 76%
 - * Stillbirths identified as SGA fell from 40% to 32%



Problems with SBLCB1

- * Compliance with all parts of Element 2 was rare in the evaluation
- * There was a **big** increase in the need for ultrasound scans (↑ 24%)
- * There was with an increase in **inductions and caesarean** sections (both ↑ ~19%) - which might not be a bad thing
- * In attempting to simplify the screening and management process we made too many women "high risk" for FGR

Figure 1. Prevalence of special educational need by gestation at delivery.



MacKay DF, Smith GCS, Dobbie R, Pell JP (2010) Gestational Age at Delivery and Special Educational Need: Retrospective Cohort Study of 407,503 Schoolchildren. *PLOS Medicine* 7(6): e1000289. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1000289>
<https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1000289>

Saving Babies Lives 2


Fetal Growth Restriction

Brief

- * Maintain what was good about SBLCB1
- * Reduce intervention (where needed) and poor compliance with certain parts of guidance
- * Reduce controversy
- * Improve management guidance
- * Focus attention on those at greatest risk (i.e. FGR)

New SBLCB - Element 2 FGR

1. Prevention (**New** – eg low dose Aspirin)
2. Risk assessment and surveillance of women at increased risk of FGR (**New** pathway)
3. Surveillance of low risk population
4. Management of the SGA and growth restricted fetus
5. Continuous learning, process and outcome indicators

Risk assessment (Perform at booking and mid-trimester anomaly scan)		Prevention	Screening for early onset FGR and triage to pathway	Screening/surveillance pathway for FGR/SGA	Reassess at 28 weeks and after any antenatal admission
Low risk	No risk factors	Nil	Anomaly scan and EFW $\geq 10^{\text{th}}$ centile [‡]	Serial measurement of SFH	Assess for complications developing in pregnancy, e.g. hypertensive disorders or significant bleeding
Moderate risk	Moderate risk factors <u>Obstetric history</u> Previous SGA Previous stillbirth, AGA birthweight <u>Current risk factor</u> Current smoker at booking (any) Drug misuse Women ≥ 40 years of age at booking	Assess for history of placental dysfunction and consider aspirin 150mg at night <16 weeks as appropriate	Anomaly scan and EFW $\geq 10^{\text{th}}$ centile [‡]	Serial USS from 32 weeks every 4 weeks* until delivery	
High risk	High risk factors <u>Medical history</u> Maternal medical conditions [chronic kidney disease, hypertension, autoimmune disease (SLE, APLS), cyanotic congenital heart disease] <u>Obstetric history</u> Previous FGR Hypertensive disease in a previous pregnancy Previous SGA stillbirth <u>Current pregnancy</u> PAPP $< 5^{\text{th}}$ centile Echogenic bowel Significant bleeding EFW $< 10^{\text{th}}$ centile	Assess for history of placental dysfunction and consider aspirin 150mg at night <16 weeks as appropriate	Additional uterine artery Doppler Normal uterine artery Doppler	Serial USS from 32 weeks every 2-4 weeks* until delivery	 Serial USS from diagnosis until delivery*
			Abnormal uterine artery Doppler and EFW $\geq 10^{\text{th}}$ centile	Serial USS from 28 weeks every 2-4 weeks* until delivery	
			Abnormal uterine artery Doppler and AC or EFW $< 10^{\text{th}}$ centile	Discussion with fetal medicine	
Other	Women unsuitable for monitoring of growth by SFH measurement (e.g. BMI $\geq 35\text{kg/m}^2$) Fibroids	Nil	Anomaly scan and EFW $\geq 10^{\text{th}}$ centile [‡]	Serial USS from 32 weeks every 4 weeks* until delivery	

The risk factors listed here constitute those routinely assessed at booking, other risk factors exist and risk assessment must always be individualised taking into account previous medical and obstetric history and current pregnancy history. For women with maternal medical conditions and individuals with disease progression or institution of medical therapies may increase an individual's risk and necessitate monitoring with serial scanning. For women with a previous stillbirth, management must be tailored to the previous history i.e. evidence of placental dysfunction or maternal medical conditions. Serial measurement should be performed as per NICE antenatal care guideline.

[‡]AC and/or EFW $< 10^{\text{th}}$ centile at the anomaly scan is a high risk factor. * Refer to risk assessment and screening section for advice on scan interval.

3. Surveillance of low risk population

Aims to keep what has been successful in SBLCB1 in best practise use of SFH and charts

2.5 In women not undergoing serial ultrasound scan surveillance of fetal growth, assessment is performed using antenatal symphysis fundal height (SFH) charts by clinicians trained in their use. All staff performing these measurements are to be competent in measuring, plotting, interpreting appropriately and referring when indicated.”

4. Management of the SGA and growth restricted fetus

Aims to improve the management of SGA/FGR as a whole

- * Refers to Appendix D and the distinction between those babies highly likely to have FGR (<3rd centile) and those SGA who are less likely to have FGR (3-<10th centile)
- * Later onset FGR management stays the same = **recommend delivery between 37-37+6 weeks**
- * Earlier onset FGR (<34) weeks now **needs input from network fetal medicine centres**
- * SGA babies (3-<10th centile) Babies with lower risk of FGR, management has changed = **recommend delivery at 39 weeks**

Changes to version 2 summary

- Reduce unnecessary intervention
- * Element 1 – **Reducing Smoking** - main difference is introduction of re-testing at 36/40
- * Element 2 – **Mx of Growth Restriction**
- * **Element 3 – Reduced Fetal Movements** - Induction of labour prior to 39 weeks gestation is only recommended where there is evidence of fetal compromise or other concerns in addition to the history of RFM. Recommendation to use computerised ctg as it removes human error and reduces time to get normal CTG not because has been shown to reduce stillbirths
- * **Element 4 – Fetal Monitoring in Labour** - Trusts must be able to demonstrate that all qualified staff who care for women in labour are competent to interpret cardiocotographs (CTGs), always use the buddy system and escalate accordingly when concerns arise or risks develop. This element now includes use of a standardised risk assessment tool at the onset of labour and the appointment of a Fetal Monitoring Lead with the responsibility of improving the standard of fetal monitoring. Fresh ears and eyes.
- * **New element 5 – Reducing Preterm Birth** - developed in response to The Department of Health's 'Safer Maternity Care' report which extended the 'Maternity Safety Ambition' to include reducing preterm births from 8% to 6%. This new element focuses on three intervention areas to improve outcomes which are **prediction** and **prevention** of preterm birth and better **preparation** when preterm birth is unavoidable.

Changes to version 2 - Summary

- * The second version of the care bundle includes a greater emphasis on **continuous improvement** with a reduced number of process and outcome measures. The implementation of each element will require a commitment to quality improvement with a focus on how processes and pathways can be developed and where improvements can be made.
- * SBLCBv2 includes sections which reference the importance of other interventions outside of the remit of the care bundle, such as **continuity of carer** models, following **NICE guidance**, delivering **'healthy pregnancy messages'** before and during pregnancy and offering choice and personalised care to all women. These are not mandated by the care bundle but reflect best practice care and are recommended to be followed in conjunction with the care bundle.

New SBLCB – Element 5 Preterm Birth





Prediction

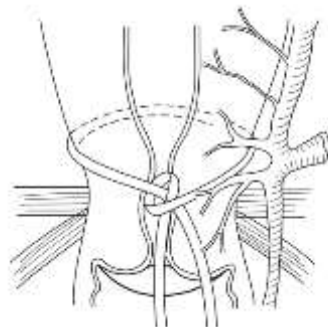
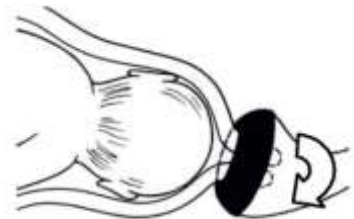
- risk factors at booking

Prediction

- risk factors at booking
- transvaginal scan assessments of the cervix



- continuity of carer
- lifestyle intervention
- treatment of bacteriuria
- low dose aspirin
- **use of cerclage, progesterone, or pessary**



- optimise diagnosis of labour
- transfer to/delivery in appropriate place
- antenatal corticosteroids and magnesium sulphate
- interdisciplinary discussion



Preparation

Implementation

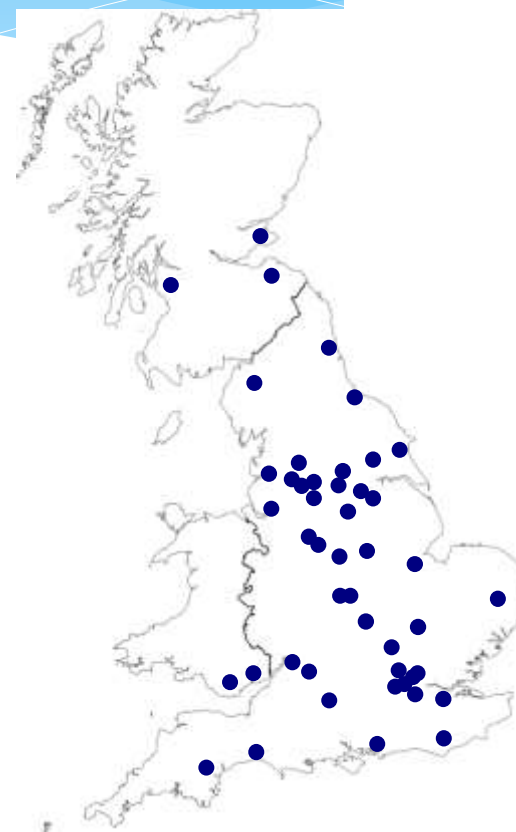
- each unit to appoint a preterm birth prevention clinician and midwife
 - assess existing expertise and capacity
 - formulate clinical pathways
 - identify local needs
- regional networks for complex care
- be aware of local statistics and trends
- offer relevant portfolio studies



UK Preterm Clinical Network

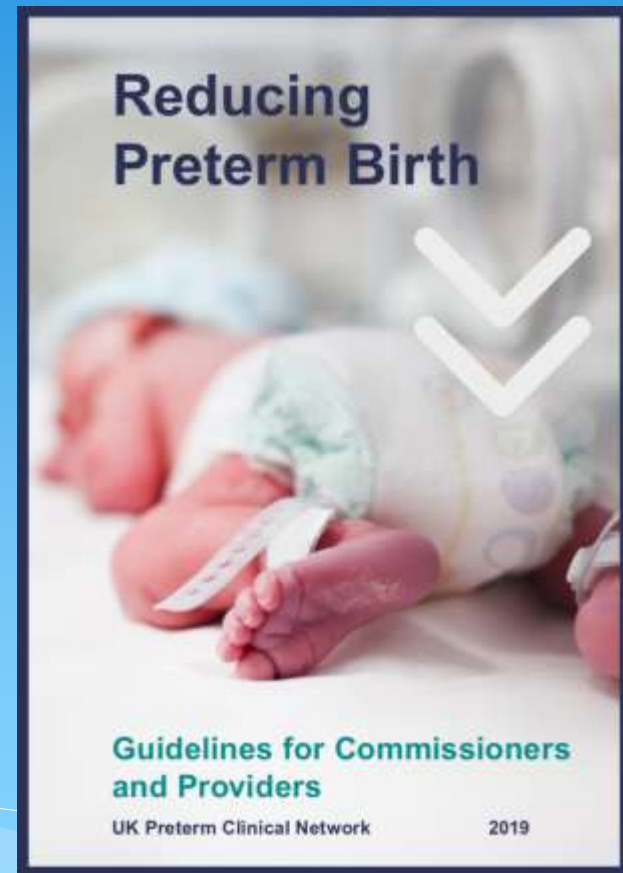


- * 33 preterm prevention clinics
- * 70 units taking part in studies
- * clinical and research focus
- * annual meeting
- * online medscinet database

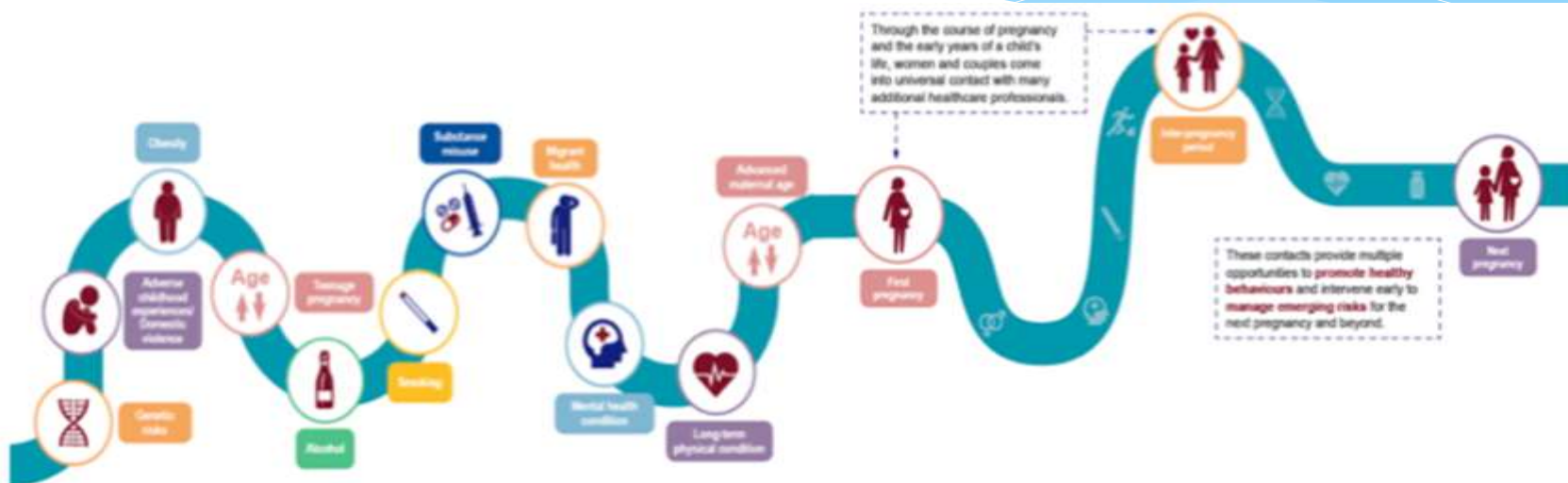


Further assistance

- guidance document
- UKPCN, with charities and support groups
- complements *SBLCB*
- for providers and commissioners

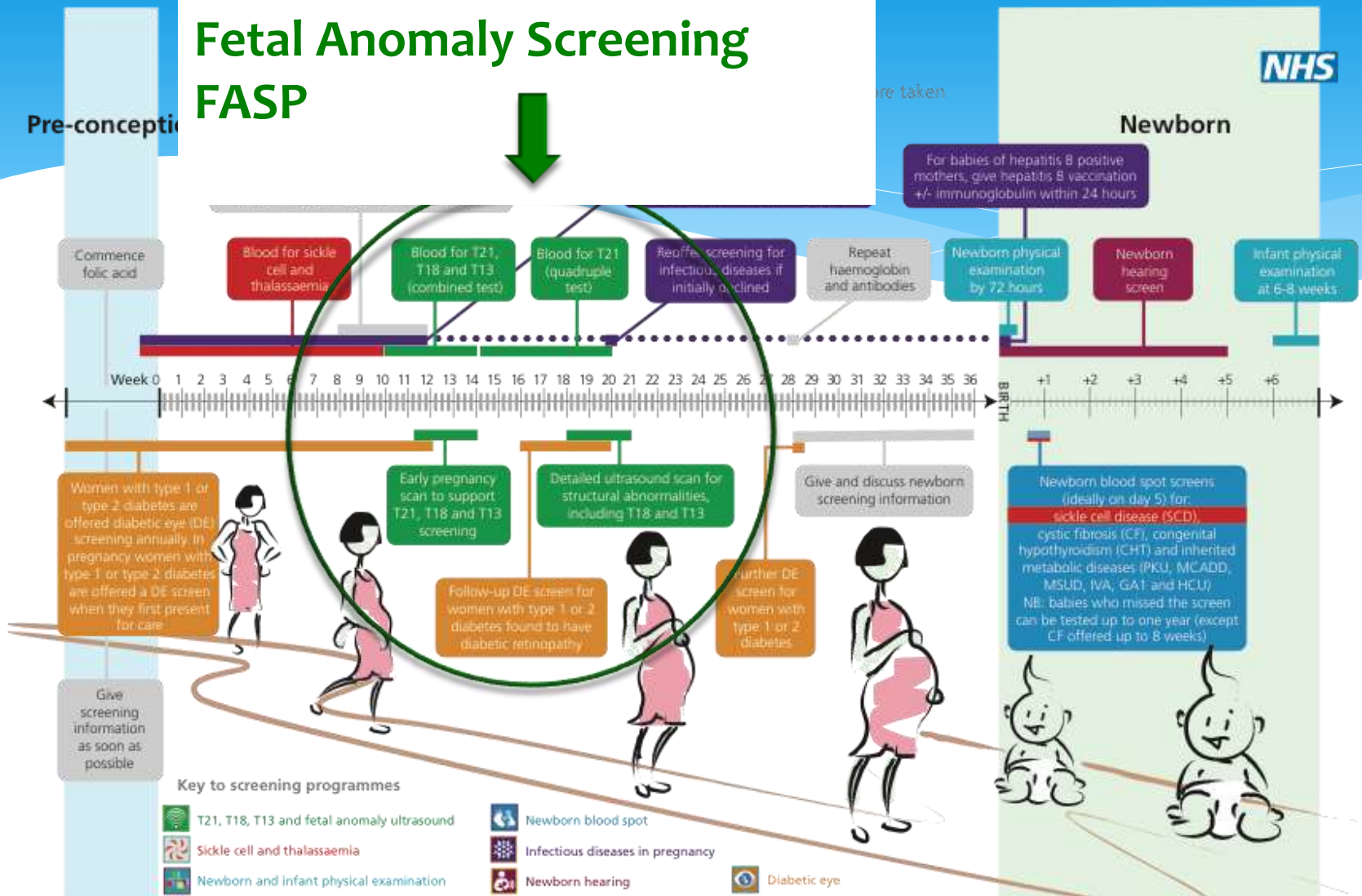


Prevention – Life Course approach



Prevention/Screening – in context

Fetal Anomaly Screening FASP



Antenatal and Newborn Screening Timeline - optimum times for testing

The Circle of “Progress”



The Circle of “Progress”



July 2019

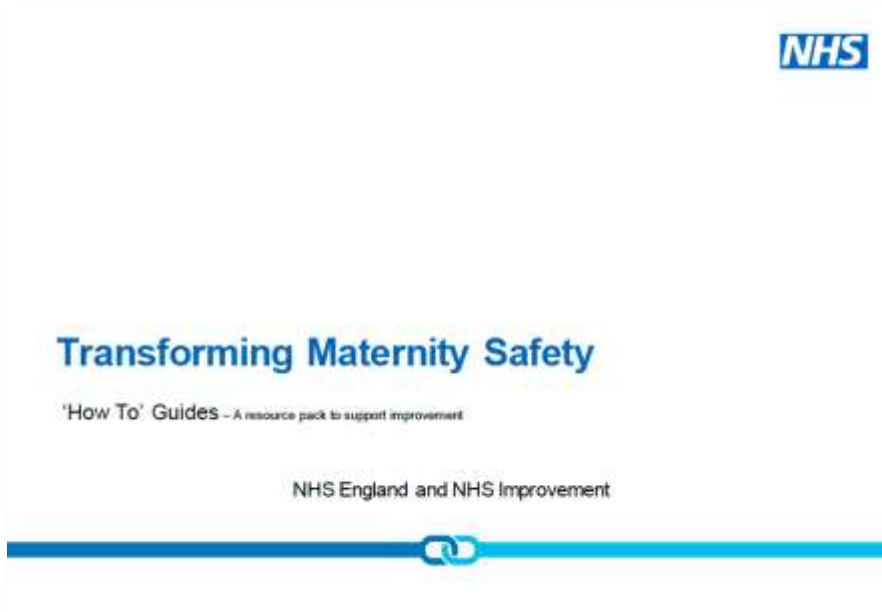


The NHS Patient Safety Strategy

Safer culture, safer systems, safer patients

July 2019

“The Golden Thread of Safety.”



- Insight
- Involvement
- Improvements

The Maternity & Neonatal Safety Improvement Programme MNSIP

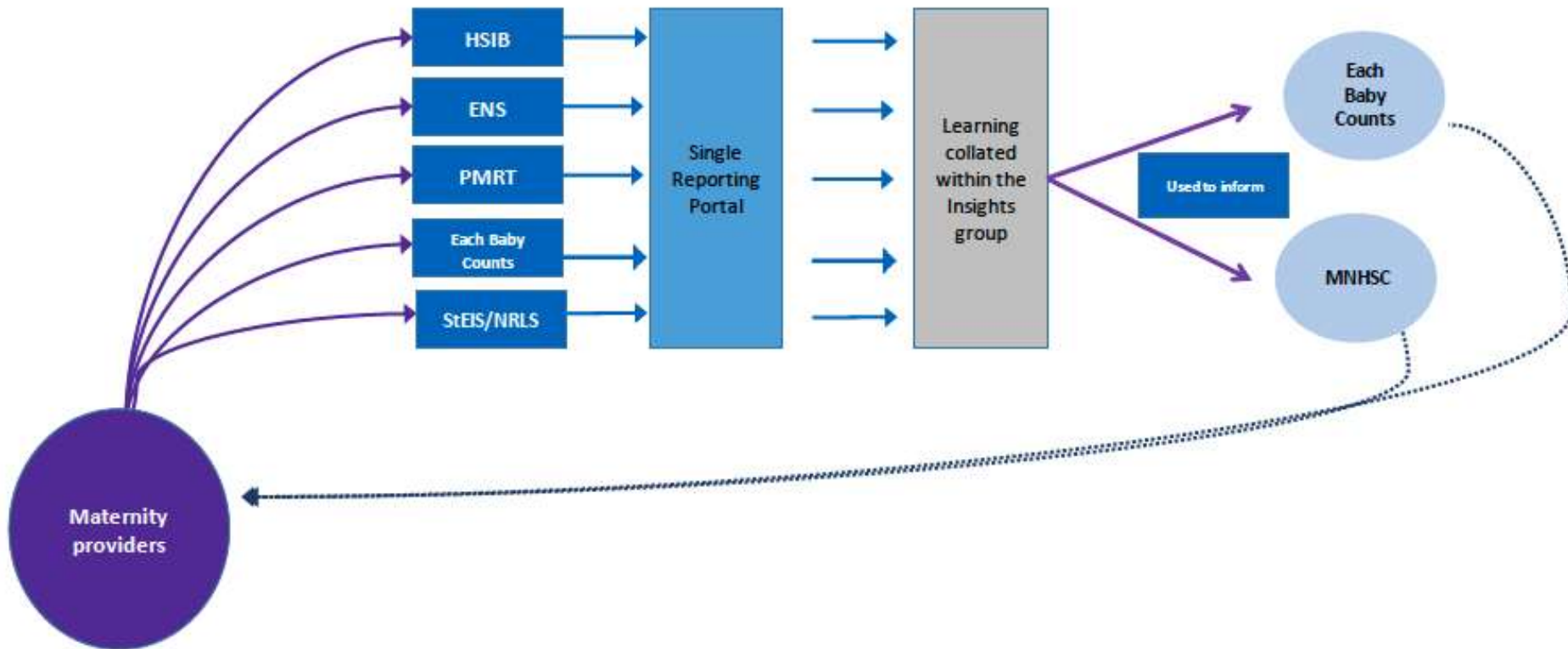
(formerly Maternity and Neonatal Health Safety Collaborative)

Dr Tony Kelly – national clinical lead for MNSIP

How can we **learn** more effectively?

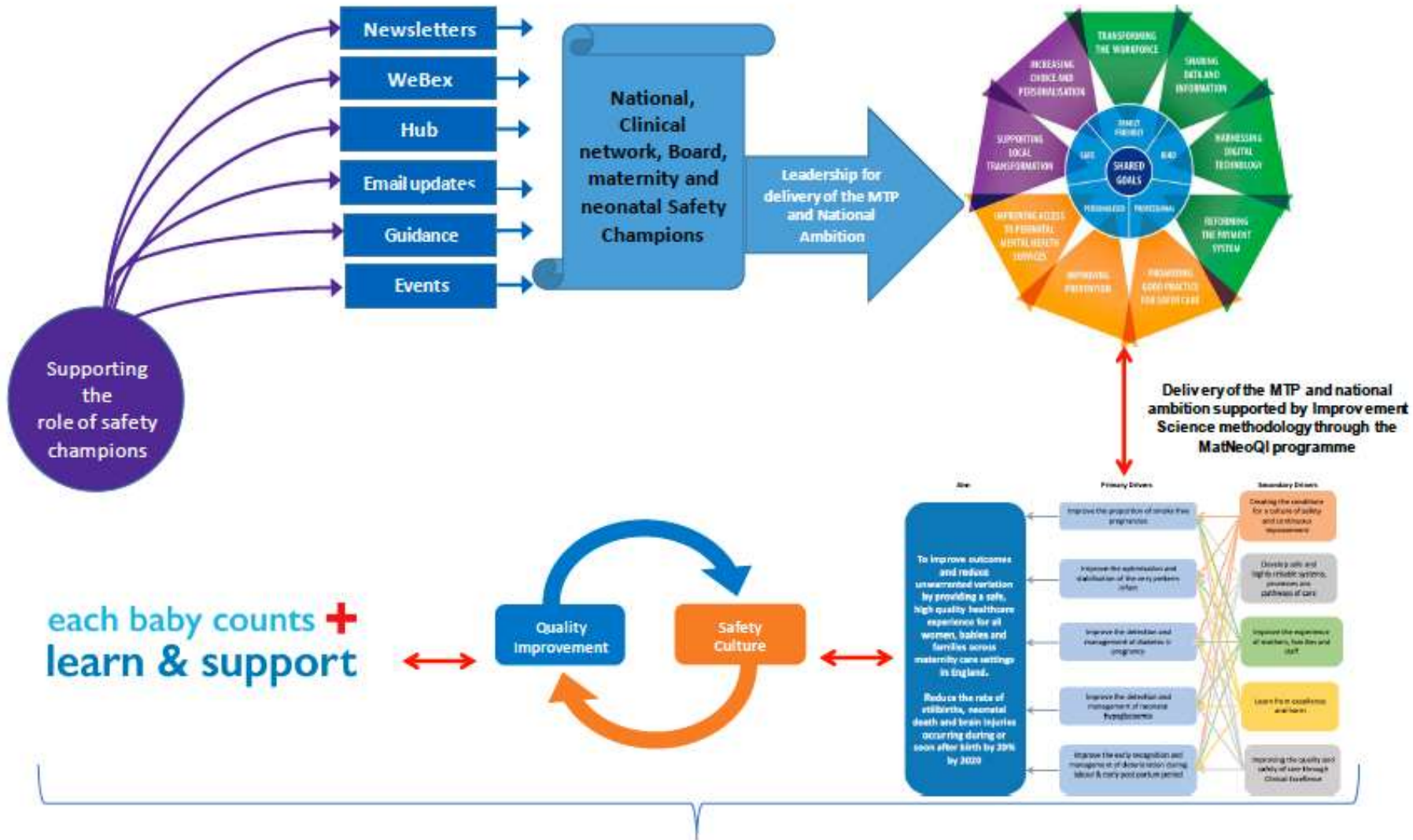
Alignment of current safety activities

Insight:



How can we **support** effective improvement in safety?

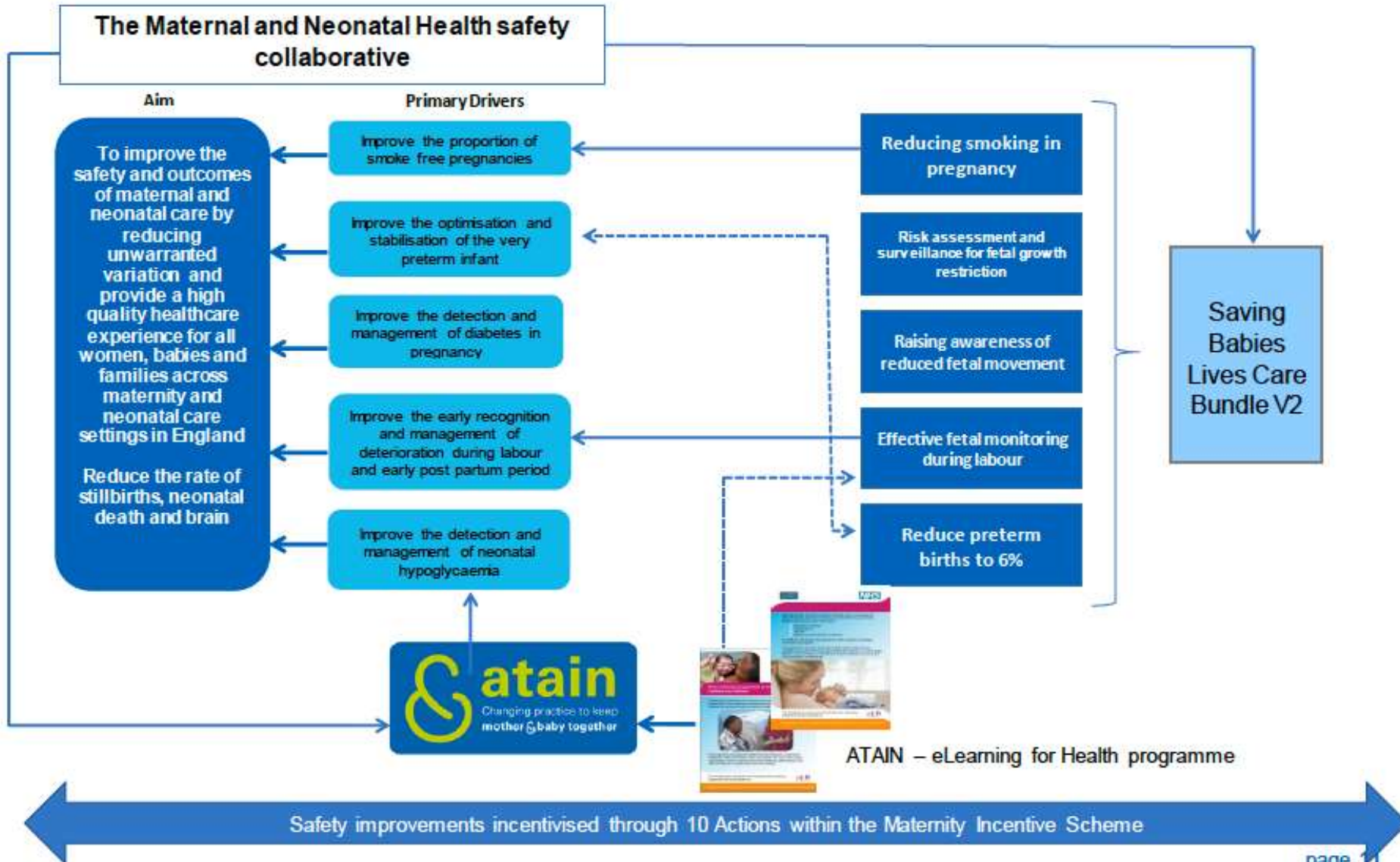
Involvement



Each Baby Counts Learn and Support: led by RCOG and RCM and aligned to the Maternal and Neonatal Health Safety Collaborative. The EBC L&S programme is currently being established in 16 trusts. Local Improvement leads will support improvements in escalation, culture change, workforce wellbeing and human factors

How can we improve...

Improvements



Human Factors

[Maternity Care V1 \(1\).wmv](#)

Thanks to Moira Durbridge and Tracey Harrington, University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

Health warning: this video may cause some viewers to be upset.

CONCLUSIONS

- * Enormous nationally driven efforts in place to reduce still-birth
- * Guidance in abundance
- * Combination of evidence-based practice and pragmatism
- * Success will depend on enabling staff to do their best rather than punishing bad practice.