



Birth Place Research Quality (ResQu) Index

Includes clear statement of research question/objective Defines and describes each birth setting clearly (e.g. provider, facilities, location) Defines and describes each birth setting clearly (e.g. provider, facilities, location) Defines and describes each birth setting clearly (e.g. provider, facilities, location) Defines described leminimal definition 2-definition only in tenns of provider 4-comprehancy definition of each birth setting Description		Item	Scoring rubric	Score
Includes clear statement of research 1-yes 2 Defines and describes each birth setting clearly (e.g. provider, facilities, location) 2-definition of such birth setting 3 Indicates type of study design	A	Quality of design		
question/objective 2 Defines and describes each birth setting clearly (e.g. provider, facilities, location) 3 Indicates type of study design 4 Defines key terms (e.g. low risk, PPH, outcome, mortality) consistently, transparently and appropriately (e.g. NICE, ACOG guidelines) 5 Indicates ethics approval 6 (If relevant) distinguishes between a) planned home births with skilled attendants AND b) free births or umplanned home births 7 Includes sample size calculation 8 Uses reliable method of sampling and recruitment for each cohort C Measurement of outcomes 9 Outcome data from reliable source e.g. medical records, registration data representively determined and adjusted for in analysis 12 Uses cohort size with appropriate power for selected outcomes heing measured 13 Uses reliable method to indicate changes of birth setting 13 Uses reliable method to indicate changes of birth setting 15 Uses reliable method to indicate changes of birth setting 16 Uses reliable method to indicate changes of birth setting 17 Uses reliable method of sampling and recruitment of provider type (for birth) is indicated, measured and adjusted for in analysis 18 Uses reliable method of sampling and recruitment of provider type (for birth) is indicated, measured and adjusted for in analysis 19 Provider type (for birth) is indicated, measured and adjusted for in analysis Oscience of the provider type are soss study 19 Provider type (for birth) is indicated, measured and adjusted for in analysis Oscience of the provider type are soss study 19 Uses cohort size with appropriate power for selected outcomes being measured 20 Uses reliable method to indicate changes of birth setting of this setting acknowledged			0=no	
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	Item	Scoring rubric	Score
14	Indicates timing of transfer between birth settings	0= not indicated	
17	in labour or postpartum period	2=reports timing of transfer	
	in labour of postpartum period	4=discusses impact/relevance of timing of transfer	
15	Applies reliable and appropriate statistical	0=statistical methods not described	
13	methods to compare outcomes between cohorts	2=descriptive statistics only	
	methods to compare outcomes between conorts	2=comparative statistical methods used inappropriately	
		4=some comparative statistical methods appropriate	
		6=all comparative methods appropriate and reliable	
16	Reports and minimises missing data	0=not reported	
10	Reports and minimises missing data	1=reports missing data	
		2=missing data excluded from denominator	
		3=missing data <5% OR missing data imputed	
		4=assesses differences between results from participants	
		with missing and non-missing data OR no missing data	
D	Comparability of cohorts		
17	Uses cohorts with comparable obstetric and socio	0=no comparison group	
1 /	demographic characteristics	1=cohorts differ in terms of risk	
	demographic characteristics	3=cohorts comparable by risk, but vary by socio-	
		demographic characteristics	
		4=comparable socio demographic and risk profile	
		6=cohort characteristics are matched	
18	Retains women in original birth place cohort for	0=no	
10	analysis (intention to treat)	6=yes	
19	Provides consistent inclusion criteria	0=no inclusion criteria	
19	1 Tovides Consistent inclusion Criteria	3=vague criteria (e.g. undefined 'low risk', 'normal')	
		6=appropriate, consistently-defined criteria all cohorts	
20	Controls for confounders including socio-	0=no	
20	demographic and health profile	2=acknowledges confounders, but not in data analysis	
	demographic and hearth profile	2=only accounts for one confounder e.g. parity	
		2=controls for undefined confounders	
		4=controls for multiple confounders in analysis OR	
		4=uses matched data effectively OR	
		4=RCT	
Е	Accuracy of interpretation and reporting		
21	Presents results of statistical comparisons clearly	0=no comparison between cohorts presented	
	and effectively	2=presentation of comparisons confusing or limited	
		4=clear presentation of comparison between cohorts e.g.	
		AOR, ARR, RR with appropriate CIs	
22	Bases discussion and conclusions on reported data	0=no	
	_	3=partly	
		6=all conclusions based on reported data	
23	Addresses impact of size of cohorts for each	0=no	
	outcome measured	2=yes OR 2=NA i.e. all cohorts of sufficient size	
24	Addresses impact of incomplete data	0=missing data not reported	
		0=missing data >5% but not addressed in limitations	
		2=missing data >5% and impact addressed	
		2=missing data <5%	
25	Addresses impact of retrospective data	0=no	
		2=yes OR NA i.e. not retrospective data	
26	Addresses effect of level of service integration	0=no	
	between home, birth centre and hospital	2=acknowledges effect of limited integration	
		4=accounts for effects of limited integration OR	
		4=well integrated system	
27	Addresses impact of local/regional standards,	0=no	
	policies and protocols	2=yes OR 2=NA i.e. local protocols have no negative impact	t
	-		