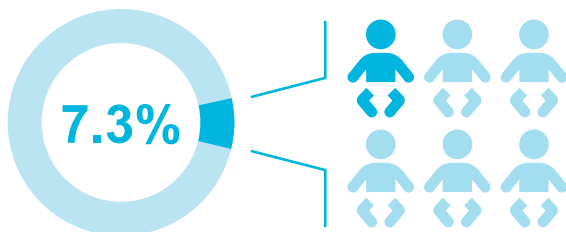


Impacted Fetal Head

A prospective observational study of **3518** second-stage caesarean births at **194** obstetric units across the UK between 1st March and 31st August 2019. Data collated via UKOSS reporting system.



An estimated 7.3% of Caesarean section births occurred during the 2nd stage

8 techniques were used to manage an IFH (from most to least common):

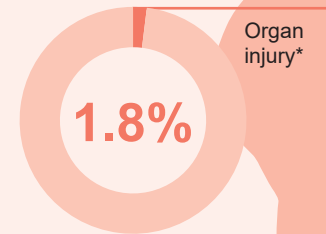
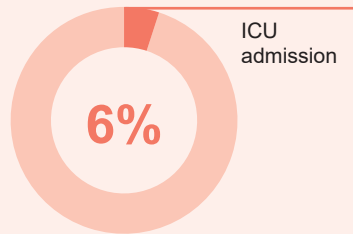
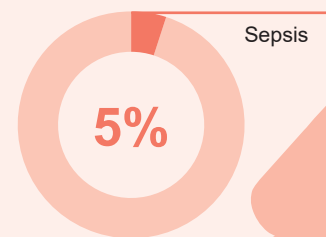
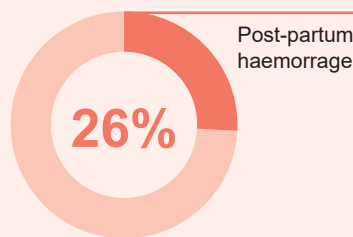
- Push technique
- Fetal Pillow
- Head-down tilt
- Tocolysis
- Extend incision
- Reverse breech
- Patwardhan
- Tydeman tube

Limited evidence as to which of these provides the best outcomes

57%

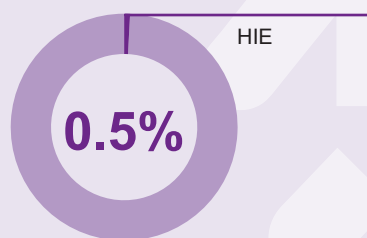
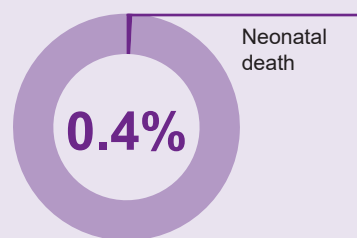
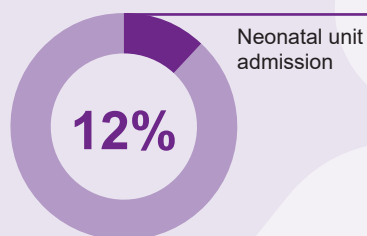
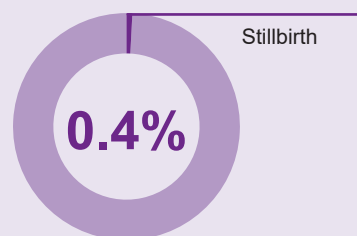
Occurred after attempted instrumental delivery

Maternal outcomes



*Organ injury = injury to bladder or bowel, or hysterectomy performed

Infant outcomes



There is no standard definition for IFH. This study classified it as:

“use of disimpaction technique or surgeon-reported ‘difficulty’ delivering the fetal head”

More work is needed on:

- Education and training for clinicians
- A standardised definition of IFH
- Which techniques provide the best outcomes
- Maternal risk factors for IFH
- Risk factors for infant birth trauma