



University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust

Freedom of Information Request: 0290 2019/20

I am contacting you to ask if you can provide professional feedback on an innovation that we are currently reviewing. It is a handheld device for the prediction of surgical site infection (SSI) before and after caesarean section, so at an early stage in healing and recovery. In the future, it could be used in maternity units in women before discharge from hospital but also by community midwives after discharge during their visits. It has the benefits of being a non-contact, handheld imaging device, providing easy to interpret results, which could allow prediction of wound infections before the signs appear during the critical period of 10 days post-surgery.

At this stage of the project, we are assessing the potential need for such a device and how it would fit within current practice in the NHS. On that basis, we would welcome information on the following aspects:

1	What is your role (hospital midwife, community midwife,...)?	Not valid under Freedom Of Information Act
	BIRTHS & POST DISCHARGE	
2	What is the total number of births by caesarean section on average every month?	Please see below table
3	What is the number of births from women with BMI≥30 by caesarean section on average every month?	Please see below table
4	How many post-discharge visits do you make, on average, after a lady has a caesarean section?	We do not hold this information
5	What percentage of post discharge visits are carried out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in out-patient clinics? • as home visits? 	We do not hold this information
	READMISSIONS	
6	What is the total number of monthly readmissions after a caesarean section?	Please see below table
7	What is the number of monthly readmissions after caesarean section for women specifically with BMI≥30?	Please see below table
8	What percentage of readmissions are related to surgical site infection after c-section across all BMI categories?	Please see below table
9	What percentage of readmissions are related to surgical site infection in women after c-section in ladies with a higher BMI i.e. ≥30?	Please see below table

10	What is the average length of stay (bed days) for ladies who are re-admitted after c-section	Please see below table
WOUND INFECTION PREDICTION		
11	Do you think that wound inspection provides reliable assessment of later wound infection?	Not valid under Freedom Of Information Act
12	Have you ever used a device / technology to predict caesarean wound infection? If yes, which one?	No
13	Do you see any potential advantages in the new proposed device to establish early prediction of SSI?	Not valid under Freedom Of Information Act
14	What evidence would you require to consider using such a device?	Not valid under Freedom Of Information Act
15	What could be the barriers to adopting such a new device in the NHS?	Not valid under Freedom Of Information Act
16	If it was available, how many would you need in your department: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for in hospital use (inpatients)? • for community use (post discharge visits)? 	Not valid under Freedom Of Information Act
17	Would you see the need for such a device by health visitors, beyond the 10 days post discharge period?	Not valid under Freedom Of Information Act
18	Who would make the decision on the purchase of such devices (midwife, head of midwifery, commissioners, ...): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for in hospital use (inpatients)? • for community use (post discharge visits)? 	We do not hold this information
19	Would you consider testing such a device? (if yes, please share your contact details)	Not valid under Freedom Of Information Act

Table 2: Total births by C-section on average every month

Row Labels	2018-04	2018-05	2018-06	2018-07	2018-08	2018-09	2018-10	2018-11	2018-12	2019-01	2019-02	2019-03	Grand Total	Mean 2018-19
Elective	82	111	89	101	103	97	91	108	91	95	84	82	1134	95
Emergency	134	145	139	145	160	176	158	157	164	160	137	162	1837	153
Not recorded	19	10	11	11	18	16	16	15	3	2	2	2		
Grand Total	235	266	239	257	281	289	265	280	258	257	223	246	2971	

Table 3: Total births by C-Section for women with BMI ≥30

CS Type	2018-04	2018-05	2018-06	2018-07	2018-08	2018-09	2018-10	2018-11	2018-12	2019-01	2019-02	2019-03	Total	Mean
Elective	26	33	29	31	31	26	32	39	27	26	27	20	347	29
Emergency	28	38	37	37	53	41	50	37	44	46	44	47	502	42
Grand Total	54	71	66	68	84	67	82	76	71	72	71	67	849	

Table 6: Total number of monthly readmissions after a caesarean section

CS Type	2018-04	2018-05	2018-06	2018-07	2018-08	2018-09	2018-10	2018-11	2018-12	2019-01	2019-02	2019-03	Grand Total
Emergency CS	16	29	20	19	21	25	14	23	3	11	10	13	204
Elective CS	18	18	16	22	8	14	10	11	7	9	5	10	148
Grand Total	34	47	36	41	29	39	24	34	10	20	15	23	352

Table 7: Total number of monthly readmissions after caesarean section for women with BMI≥30

CS Type	2018-04	2018-05	2018-06	2018-07	2018-08	2018-09	2018-10	2018-11	2019-01	2019-02	2019-03	Grand Total
Elective CS		7	7	5		5	1	5	4		2	36
Emergency CS	1	11	8	7	11	3	3	10	4	3	2	63
Grand Total	1	18	15	12	11	8	4	15	8	3	4	99

Table 8: Percentage of readmissions related to surgical site infection after C-section across all BMI categories

Row Labels	2018-04	2018-05	2018-06	2018-07	2018-08	2018-09	2018-10	2018-11	2018-12	2019-01	2019-02	2019-03	Total
Below 18.5	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.44%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.28%
Between 18.5 and 24.9	2.94%	4.26%	8.33%	0.00%	0.00%	12.82%	0.00%	2.94%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4.35%	3.69%
Between 25 and 29.9	0.00%	2.13%	5.56%	2.44%	3.45%	10.26%	4.17%	0.00%	10.00%	15.00%	0.00%	4.35%	4.26%
Between 30 and 39.9	0.00%	12.77%	5.56%	7.32%	17.24%	2.56%	0.00%	14.71%	0.00%	10.00%	6.67%	0.00%	7.10%
Over 39.9	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.88%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.57%
Null	8.82%	2.13%	5.56%	4.88%	3.45%	2.56%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4.35%	3.13%
Grand Total	11.76%	21.28%	25.00%	17.07%	24.14%	28.21%	4.17%	23.53%	10.00%	25.00%	6.67%	13.04%	19.03%

Table 9: Percentage of readmissions related to surgical site infection in women after C-section in ladies with BMI≥30

Row Labels	2018-05	2018-06	2018-07	2018-08	2018-09	2018-11	2019-01	2019-02	Grand Total
Grand Total	12.77%	5.56%	7.32%	17.24%	2.56%	20.59%	10.00%	6.67%	10.34%

Table 10: Mean LOS for emergency and postnatal readmissions after C-section

Row Labels	2018-04	2018-05	2018-06	2018-07	2018-08	2018-09	2018-10	2018-11	2018-12	2019-01	2019-02	2019-03	2019-04	Grand Total
Elective CS	0.61	0.44	1.25	0.73	1.13	1.00	1.30	1.00	0.71	1.44	0.60	2.80	#DIV/0!	1.02
Emergency CS	1.63	1.17	0.45	0.53	0.62	1.16	0.64	0.61	1.33	2.18	1.60	2.77	1.33	1.10
Grand Total	1.09	0.89	0.81	0.63	0.76	1.10	0.92	0.74	0.90	1.85	1.27	2.78	1.33	1.07