

Appendix S1: Protocol for systematic review and meta-analysis of the prognostic and predictive ability of current birth weight standards for short and long term outcomes.

Question

Which measurement of fetal growth restriction most accurately predicts long term outcome?

Population

Inclusion: Infants who have had weight or other anthropometric measurements recorded at birth

Exclusion: infants who have low birth weight due to premature delivery but are appropriate for gestational age

Index test

Absolute weight (<2.5kg, <1.5kg, <1kg)

Birthweight <10th centile or <5th centile on population or customised growth charts

Ponderal index

Other measures of growth restriction as defined in the primary study

Reference standard

Any reference standard looking at compromise of neonatal, childhood or adult wellbeing; including:

Mortality

Cerebral palsy

Childhood or adult cognitive disability

Childhood or adult motor disability

Childhood or adult disease including diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular disease, hypertension

Study design

Test accuracy studies or epidemiology studies which consist of observational studies of defined populations in which the results of the test of interest are compared with the findings confirmed by a reference standard allowing generation of a 2x2 table to compute indices of test accuracy. Exclude: case series ≤ 10. If there are sufficient cohort studies, case-control studies may be excluded from the meta-analysis.