

Appendix 1. Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth Group

Detailed search methods used to maintain and update the Group's Database of Trials

The Group's Information Specialist:

- Runs a very broad generic preconception, pregnancy, childbirth and immediate postpartum/breastfeeding search that aims to encompass our whole scope. See below for searches run and strategies used.
- Screens the results, gets hard copies of all relevant papers.
- If a paper reports an RCT/CCT (by Cochrane definition), each report is assigned to a review topic or topics depending on the intervention and added to the database with a topic classification number to aid retrieval. The Group has a very detailed topic list.

For this project, all the papers assigned to the 'Induction of labour' topic were identified using the broad classification number for this topic.

Search strategies for the identification of studies

Electronic searches

1) MEDLINE

This current search strategy is run weekly via OVID MEDLINE and uses the Highly Sensitive Search Strategy for identifying randomized trials in MEDLINE: sensitivity-maximizing version (2008 revision) published in Chapter 6, Section 6.4.11 of the *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.0.2*

1. randomized controlled trial.pt.
2. controlled clinical trial.pt.
3. randomized.ab.
4. placebo.ab.
5. drug therapy.fs.
6. randomly.ab.
7. trial.ab.
8. groups.ab.
9. or/1-8
10. exp Pregnancy/
11. exp Pregnancy Complications/
12. exp Maternal Health Services/
13. exp Fetus/
14. exp Fetal Therapies/
15. exp Fetal Monitoring/
16. exp Prenatal Diagnosis/
17. Perinatal Care/
18. Labor pain/
19. Analgesia, Obstetric/
20. exp Obstetric Surgical Procedures/
21. Infant, Newborn/
22. exp Postpartum Period/
23. Breastfeeding/
24. or/10-23
25. 9 and 24
26. exp animals/ not humans.sh.
27. 25 not 26

2) EMBASE

The following search strategy is run weekly via NHS Evidence: Health Information Resources.

1 CROSSOVER PROCEDURE/
 2 allocat\$.ti,ab
 3 (cross ADJ over\$).ti,ab
 4 trial\$.ti
 5 placebo\$.ti,ab
 6 (doubl\$ ADJ blind\$).ti,ab
 7 DOUBLE BLIND PROCEDURE/
 8 crossover\$.ti,ab
 9 SINGLE BLIND PROCEDURE/
 10 RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL/
 11 random\$.ti,ab
 12 1 OR 3 OR 2 OR 6 OR 4 OR 5 OR 11 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9 OR 10
 13 exp PREGNANCY/
 14 exp PREGNANCY DISORDER/
 15 exp OBSTETRIC PROCEDURE/
 16 exp BREAST FEEDING/ OR exp BREAST FEEDING EDUCATION/
 17 exp CHILDBIRTH/
 18 CHILDBIRTH EDUCATION/
 19 (antenatal* OR prenatal* OR puerper* OR postnatal* OR postpartum OR post ADJ partum OR post ADJ natal* OR peripartum).ti,ab
 20 (prepregnancy OR pre-pregnancy OR "pre pregnancy" OR preconception* OR "pre conception" OR pre-conception* OR "pre conceptionally" OR periconceptional*).ti,ab
 21 ((preterm OR premature) AND (labor OR labour)).ti,ab
 22 (eclamp* OR preeclamp* OR pre-eclamp*).ti,ab
 23 amniocentes*.ti,ab
 24 (chorion* ADJ vill*).ti,ab
 25 (breastfe* OR breast-fe* OR breast ADJ fe* OR lactation*).ti,ab
 26 (cesarean OR caesarean OR cesarian OR caesarian OR cesarien OR caesarien).ti,ab
 27 (newborn OR new ADJ born OR newborn).ti,ab
 28 (pregnant OR pregnancy OR pregnancies).ti
 29 (tocolysis OR tocolytic*).ti,ab
 30 (fetal OR foetal OR fetus OR foetus).ti,ab
 31 miscarriage*.ti,ab
 32 LABOR PAIN/
 33 13 OR 14 OR 15 OR 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19 OR 20 OR 21 OR 22 OR 23 OR 24 OR 25 OR 26 OR 27 OR 28 OR 29 OR 30 OR 31 OR 32
 34 12 AND 33

3) [The Cochrane Library](#) (includes CDSR, CENTRAL, DARE, and Economic Evaluations Databases)

This search is run monthly with each new issue of *The Cochrane Library*:

- #1 MeSH descriptor Pregnancy explode all trees
- #2 MeSH descriptor Pregnancy Complications explode all trees
- #3 MeSH descriptor Fetal Therapies explode all trees
- #4 MeSH descriptor Labor Pain explode all trees
- #5 MeSH descriptor Infant, Newborn explode all trees
- #6 MeSH descriptor Fetus explode all trees
- #7 MeSH descriptor Fetal Development explode all trees
- #8 MeSH descriptor Extraembryonic Membranes explode all trees
- #9 MeSH descriptor Heart Rate, Fetal explode all trees
- #10 MeSH descriptor Placenta explode all trees

#11 MeSH descriptor Placental Function Tests explode all trees
#12 MeSH descriptor Umbilical Cord explode all trees
#13 MeSH descriptor Prenatal Diagnosis explode all trees
#14 MeSH descriptor Uterine Monitoring explode all trees
#15 MeSH descriptor Pelvimetry explode all trees
#16 MeSH descriptor Fetal Monitoring explode all trees
#17 MeSH descriptor Obstetrical Nursing explode all trees
#18 MeSH descriptor Oxytocics explode all trees
#19 MeSH descriptor Tocolytic Agents explode all trees
#20 MeSH descriptor Tocolysis explode all trees
#21 MeSH descriptor Anesthesia, Obstetrical explode all trees
#22 MeSH descriptor Obstetric Surgical Procedures explode all trees
#23 MeSH descriptor Maternal Health Services explode all trees
#24 MeSH descriptor Maternal-Child Nursing explode all trees
#25 MeSH descriptor Analgesia, Obstetrical explode all trees
#26 MeSH descriptor Midwifery explode all trees
#27 MeSH descriptor Perinatal Care explode all trees
#28 MeSH descriptor Parity explode all trees
#29 MeSH descriptor Apgar Score explode all trees
#30 MeSH descriptor Postpartum Period explode all trees
#31 MeSH descriptor Breast Feeding explode all trees
#32 MeSH descriptor Milk, Human explode all trees
#33 pregnan* in All Fields in all products
#34 fetus in All Fields in all products
#35 foetus in All Fields in all products
#36 fetal in All Fields in all products
#37 foetal in All Fields in all products
#38 newborn in All Fields in all products
#39 "new born"
#40 birth or childbirth in All Fields in all products
#41 labor or laboring in All Fields in all products
#42 labour* in All Fields in all products
#43 antepart* in All Fields in all products
#44 prenatal* in All Fields in all products
#45 antenatal* in All Fields in all products
#46 perinatal* in All Fields in all products
#47 postnatal* in All Fields in all products
#48 postpart* in All Fields in all products
#49 caesar* in All Fields in all products
#50 cesar* in All Fields in all products
#51 obstetric* in All Fields in all products
#52 oxytoci* in All Fields in all products
#53 tocoly* in All Fields in all products
#54 placenta* in All Fields in all products
#55 prostaglandin in All Fields in all products
#56 parturi* in All Fields in all products
#57 preeclamp* in All Fields in all products
#58 pre next eclamp* in All Fields in all products
#59 eclamp* in All Fields in all products
#60 intrapart* in All Fields in all products
#61 puerper* in All Fields in all products
#62 episiotom* in All Fields in all products
#63 amnio* in All Fields in all products
#64 matern* in All Fields in all products
#65 gestation* in All Fields in all products
#66 lactati* in All Fields in all products
#67 breastfe* in All Fields in all products
#68 breast next fe* in All Fields in all products
#69 (#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14 OR
#15 OR #16 OR #17 OR #18 OR #19 OR #20 OR #21 OR #22 OR #23 OR #24 OR #25 OR #26 OR #27 OR #28
OR #29 OR #30 OR #31 OR #32 OR #33 OR #34 OR #35 OR #36 OR #37 OR #38 OR #39 OR #40 OR #41 OR
#42 OR #43 OR #44 OR #45 OR #46 OR #47 OR #48 OR #49 OR #50 OR #51 OR #52 OR #53 OR #54 OR #55
OR #56 OR #57 OR #58 OR #59 OR #60 OR #61 OR #62 OR #63 OR #64 OR #65 OR #66 OR #67 OR #68)

4) CINAHL

The following search strategy is run weekly via NHS Evidence: Health Information Resources.

1. exp CLINICAL TRIALS/
2. (clinic* ADJ trial*).ti,ab
3. (trebl* ADJ mask*).ti,ab
4. (tripl* ADJ blind*).ti,ab
5. (tripl* ADJ mask*).ti,ab
6. (doubl* ADJ blind*).ti,ab
7. (doubl* ADJ mask*).ti,ab
8. (singl* ADJ blind*).ti,ab
9. (singl* ADJ mask*).ti,ab
10. (randomi* ADJ control* ADJ trial*).ti,ab
11. RANDOM ASSIGNMENT/
12. (random* ADJ allocat*).ti,ab
13. placebo*.ti,ab
14. PLACEBOS/
15. QUANTITATIVE STUDIES/
16. (allocat* ADJ random*).ti,ab
17. breastfeeding.ti,ab
18. breastfed.ti,ab
19. exp BREAST FEEDING/
20. breast-fe*.ti,ab
21. exp PREGNANCY/
22. exp PREGNANCY COMPLICATIONS/
23. 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 OR 6 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9 OR 10 OR 11 OR 12 OR 13 OR 14 OR 15 OR 16
24. (prenatal OR antenatal OR antepartum OR postpartum OR postnatal).ti,ab
25. (pregnant OR pregnancy).ti
26. ((preterm OR premature) AND (labor OR labour)).ti,ab
27. (midwife OR midwifery).ti,ab
28. CHILDBIRTH EDUCATION/
29. 17 OR 18 OR 19 OR 20 OR 21 OR 22 OR 24 OR 25 OR 26 OR 27 OR 28 123752 .
30. 23 AND 29

5) ClinicalTrials.gov and WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Portal

preconception* or antenatal or prenatal or perinatal or puerperal or puerperium or postnatal or postpartum or peripartum or post-natal or post-partum or ante-natal or ante-partum or obstetric*

Journal and conference proceedings screening and trial identification (handsearching)

Journals

<i>Acta Anaesthesiologica Scandinavica (and supplements)</i>	1950 and continuing
<i>Acta Obstetrica et Gynecologica Scandinavica (and supplements)</i>	1950 and continuing
<i>Acta Paediatrica Scandinavica</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>American Journal of Clinical Nutrition</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>American Journal of Diseases of the Child</i>	1950 to 1993
<i>American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology</i>	1950 and continuing
<i>Anaesthesia and Intensive Care</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Anaesthesia</i>	1950 and continuing
<i>Anesthesia and Analgesia</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Anesthesiology</i>	1950 and continuing
<i>Archives of Diseases of the Child</i>	1950 to 1993
<i>Australian and New Zealand Journal of</i>	1 st issue and continuing

<i>Obstetrics and Gynaecology</i>	
<i>Birth</i>	1st issue and continuing
<i>British Medical Journal</i>	1950 to 1996
<i>British Journal of Anaesthesia</i>	1950 and continuing
<i>British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Canadian Journal of Anaesthesia</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Canadian Medical Association Journal</i>	1950 to 1996
<i>Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics</i>	1st issue to 1998
<i>Current Medical Research and Opinion</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>Early Human Development</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Geburtshilfe und Frauenheilkunde</i>	1950 and continuing
<i>Gynecologic and Obstetric Investigation</i>	1 st issue to 1996, 2005 and continuing
<i>Hypertension in Pregnancy</i>	2006 and continuing
<i>Indian Journal of Anaesthesia</i>	2002 issue 3 to 2005 issue 5
<i>Infectious Diseases in Obstetrics and Gynecology</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>International Journal of Obstetric Anaesthesia</i>	Oct 94 to Oct 95, Jan 2003 and continuing
<i>Journal of the American Medical Association</i>	1st issue to 1996
<i>Journal of the American College of Surgeons</i>	1950 to 2003
<i>Journal de Gynecologie, Obstetrique et Biologie de la Reproduction</i>	1st issue to 1998
<i>Journal of Human Lactation</i>	2001 and continuing
<i>Journal of International Medical Research</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>Journal of Midwifery and Womens Health</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research</i>	2003 and continuing
<i>Journal of Obstetric Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing</i>	1 st issue to 1993, 2001 to 2006
<i>Journal of Pediatrics</i>	1950 to 1993
<i>Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>Journal of Perinatal Medicine</i>	1 st issue to 1998
<i>Journal of Reproductive Medicine</i>	1 st issue to 2003
<i>Lancet</i>	1950 to 1996
<i>Medical Journal of Australia</i>	1950 to 1996
<i>Midwifery</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>New England Journal of Medicine</i>	1950 to 1996
<i>Nurse Research</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>New Zealand Medical Journal</i>	1950 to 1996
<i>Obstetrics & Gynecology</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Pediatric Research</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>Pediatrics</i>	1950 to 1993
<i>Practitioner</i>	1950 to 1996
<i>Prostaglandins</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine</i>	1 st issue and continuing
<i>Revista Brasileira de Anestesiologia</i>	2003 to 2006
<i>Revista Brasileira de Ginecologia e Obstetricia</i>	2001 to 2005
<i>South African Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology</i>	1 st issue to 1993
<i>South African Medical Journal</i>	1950 - 1993
<i>Surgery Gynecology and Obstetrics</i>	1950 to 1993
<i>Ugeskrift for Laeger</i>	1950 to 1993

<i>Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology</i>	2002 and continuing
<i>Zeitschrift fur Geburtshilfe und Perinatologie</i>	1 st issue to 1997
<i>Zentrablatt fur Gynakologie</i>	1 st issue to 1997

Conference proceedings

All India Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology	49 th , 54 th
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' Annual Meeting	36 th , 37 th , 39 th , 40 th , 41 st , 55 th , 58 th
American Society of Anaesthesiologists Annual Meeting	2008, 2009
American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine Annual Spring Meeting	26 th to 28 th
American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine Annual Fall Meeting	2002, 2003, 2007
Argentinean Congress of Perinatology	3 rd
Australian Perinatal Society	14 th
Australian Society of Anaesthetists National Scientific Congress	58 th , 61 st
Birth Conference	1 st to 9 th
British Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology	23 rd , 25 th , 26 th , 27 th , 28 th
British Maternal and Fetal Medicine Society	6 th , 10 th
British Paediatric Association Annual Meeting	14 th , 15 th , 27 th , 60 th , 61 st , 62 nd , 63 rd , 65 th
Congress of Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology	34 th
European Congress of Allied Specialists in Maternal and Neonatal Care	4 th
European Congress of Obstetrical Anaesthesia and Analgesia	1 st
European Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology	18 th
European Congress of Perinatal Medicine	5 th , 6 th , 8 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th , 14 th , 15 th , 16 th , 21 st
European Congress on Prostaglandins in Reproduction	1 st , 2 nd
European Congress on Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology	6 th
European Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine	26 th , 29 th , 32 nd
Federation of the Asia-Oceania Perinatal Societies' Congress	6 th , 9 th
International Anesthesia Research Society Clinical and Scientific Congress	76 th , 78 th , 80 th
International Confederation of Midwives Triennial Congress	24 th
International Conference of Maternity Care Researchers	10 th
International Congress on Psychosomatic Medicine in Obstetrics and Gynaecology	3 rd , 5 th
International Scientific Meeting of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	4 th
International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy (ISSHP) European Branch	1 st
International Society for the Study of Hypertension in	1 st , 2 nd , 4 th to 16 th , 18 th

Pregnancy (ISSHP) World Branch	
Japanese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology	54 th , 56 th
Maternity Care Researchers International Conference	10 th
Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology Congress	34 th , 35 th , 38 th
Obstetric Anaesthetists Association	2005, 2009
Pediatric Academic Society Annual Meeting	2004 to 2013
Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Annual Congress	4 th , 7 th
Priorities in Perinatal Care in South Africa	2 nd , 4 th , 7 th , 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th , 14 th , 15 th , 16 th , 17 th
Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists International Meeting	7 th , 10 th
Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada Annual Meeting	49 th , 54 th , 63 rd
Society of Perinatal Obstetricians' (USA) Annual Meeting	3 rd 6 th to 10 th , 14 th , 17 th , 18 th
Society for Gynecologic Investigation (USA) Annual Program	31 st , 34 th , 37 th , 39 th , 40 th
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine	19 th to 22 nd , 25 th to 32 nd , 33 rd , 34 th
Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology Annual Meeting	30 th , 31 st , 33 rd , 34 th , 37 th
Swiss Society of Gynecology and Obstetrics	19 th to 22 nd
World Congress of Perinatal Medicine	1 st , 2 nd , 5 th , 10 th , 11 th
World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics	11 th , to 16 th , 19 th , 20 th
World Congress on Controversies in Obstetrics, Gynecology & Infertility	4 th
World Congress on Twin Pregnancy	1 st
World Congress on Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology	13 th , 15 th , 16 th , 17 th , 18 th , 19 th , 20 th , 21 st

Other strategies

(1) Current Awareness

a) ZETOC, The British Library's Electronic Table of Contents service sends the contents tables via e-mail of the journals listed below. The contents are reviewed by the Trials Search Co-ordinator. Hard copies of all possible reports of RCTs/CCTs relevant to the scope of the group are obtained, reviewed and added to the register by the Trials Search Co-ordinator if they meet the inclusion criteria.

- African Journal of Reproductive Health
- American Journal of Perinatology
- Archives of Disease in Childhood
- Archives of Disease in Childhood Fetal and Neonatal Edition
- Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics
- Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
- British Journal of Midwifery
- Chinese Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Clinica e Investigacion en Ginecologia y Obstetricia
- Clinical and Experimental Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Current Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Current Opinion in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Fetal and Maternal Medicine Review

- Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy
- Ginecologia y Obstetricia de Mexico
- Giornale Italiano di Ostetricia e Ginecologia
- Gynakologisch Geburtshilfliche Rundschau
- Human Reproduction
- Hypertension in Pregnancy
- International Journal of Childbirth Education
- Italian Journal of Gynaecology and Obstetrics
- JOGC: Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology Canada
- Journal de Gynecologie, Obstetrique et Biologie de la Reproduction (Paris)
- Journal of Maternal Fetal and Neonatal Medicine
- Journal of Paediatrics Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Journal of Perinatology
- Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health
- Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Journal of Reproductive Medicine
- Journal-New Zealand College of Midwives
- MCN, The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing
- MIDIRS Midwifery Digest
- Obstetrical and Gynecological Survey
- Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive Medicine
- Prenatal Diagnosis
- Progresos de Obstetricia y Ginecologia
- Revista Chilena de Obstetricia y Ginecologia
- Taiwanese Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Tokogynecologica Practica
- Women and Birth
- Zeitschrift fur Geburtshilfe und Neonatologie

b) Biomed Central (<http://www.biomedcentral.com/home/>) sends an email alert every 30 days for the anything new published in the following:

- BMC: Pregnancy and Childbirth Journal
- International Breastfeeding Journal
- Anything related to the subject areas of Pregnancy and Childbirth, Pediatrics or Women's Health

Specialised Register inclusion criteria

TOPIC SCOPE: Controlled trials comparing alternative forms of care used either during pregnancy (but not to terminate early pregnancy), or within 28 days of delivery.

STUDY DESIGN: A controlled trial has been defined as a trial involving humans in which allocation to the intervention has either been at random, or by some quasi-random method, such as by alternation, or on the basis of the case record number or date of birth.

These criteria have been applied fairly liberally to avoid excluding potentially useful studies involving concurrent comparisons of alternative policies. In other words, the register includes reports which, if necessary, can subsequently be rejected as methodologically inadequate by a member of the Group preparing a systematic review.

No language restrictions are applied.