

Table S1. Gestational age and baby's birthweight in women planning VBAC at home or in an obstetric unit

	Para 1				Para ≥2				All			
	OU n=787		Home n=87		OU n=440		Home n=122		OU n=1227		Home n=209	
	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹
Gestation (completed weeks)												
37	45	6.4	2	2.0	38	8.1	2	1.2	83	7.0	4	1.5
38	106	13.9	7	8.4	46	10.2	22	18.6	152	12.5	29	14.6
39	175	22.7	19	20.1	107	24.3	23	17.3	282	23.3	42	18.4
40	262	32.9	28	30.5	159	37.4	55	46.8	421	34.6	83	40.4
41	181	22.3	25	32.9	84	19.4	19	15.6	265	21.2	44	22.3
42	14	1.8	6	6.2	2	0.6	1	0.6	16	1.3	7	2.8
43-44+ ⁰ day	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Missing	3		0		4		0		7		0	
Birthweight (grams)												
Less than 2500g	17	2.4	0	0.0	10	2.0	1	0.6	27	2.3	1	0.4
2500-2999g	96	12.3	7	8.3	69	14.8	6	5.6	165	13.2	13	6.6
3000-3499g	322	41.8	25	30.5	179	41.8	50	42.8	501	41.8	75	38.0
3500-3999g	234	28.7	28	29.4	136	30.6	43	33.1	370	29.4	71	31.7
4000-4499g	101	13.0	25	28.5	37	9.2	18	13.7	138	11.6	43	19.4
≥4500g	15	1.7	2	3.3	8	1.6	4	4.2	23	1.7	6	3.9
Missing	2		0		1		0		3		0	

¹ Weighted percentage. Note that weighting can result in percentages differing slightly for events occurring with equal frequencies, particularly when numbers are small (see methods).

² WHO obesity classes. Note that women with a BMI of 35 kg/m² fall within WHO obesity class II (BMI 35.0-39.9) but only women with a BMI >35 kg/m² are defined as 'higher risk' under the NICE guideline criteria.

Table S2. Prevalence of additional pre-existing risk factors and ‘complicating conditions’ in women planning VBAC by parity and planned place of birth

	Para 1		Para ≥2				All					
	OU n=787		Home n=87		OU n=440		Home n=122		OU n=1227		Home n=209	
	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹
Any additional risk factors ²												
No	634	80.6	73	84.7	300	68.9	97	81.7	934	76.2	170	82.8
Yes	150	19.4	14	15.3	138	31.1	25	18.3	288	23.8	39	17.2
Any additional medical risk factor	49	6.8	3	3.0	55	11.8	5	4.7	104	8.7	8	4.0
Any additional obstetric risk factor	111	14.0	11	12.4	99	22.8	21	14.3	210	17.2	32	13.5
Presence of ‘complicating conditions’ ³												
No	615	78.1	79	91.3	345	78.8	113	92.4	960	78.3	192	92.0
Yes	168	22.0	8	8.7	92	21.2	8	7.6	260	21.7	16	8.0
Missing	4		0		3		1		7		1	
Presence of pre-existing risk factors and ‘complicating conditions’												
No additional risk factors or complicating conditions	510	64.8	67	78.4	251	57.9	91	75.9	761	62.2	158	76.9
Additional risk factors only	103	13.3	12	12.9	93	21.4	22	16.5	196	16.3	34	15.1
Complicating conditions only	120	15.6	6	6.3	47	11.1	5	5.7	167	14.0	11	6.0
Pre-existing risk factors and complicating conditions	47	6.3	2	2.4	44	9.6	3	1.9	91	7.5	5	2.1

¹ Weighted percentage. Note that weighting can result in percentages differing slightly for events occurring with equal frequencies, particularly when numbers are small (see methods).

² Risk factors are listed in Table S2 below.

³ Complicating conditions noted by the attending midwife at the start of care in labour including: prolonged rupture of membranes > 18 hours; meconium stained liquor, proteinuria 1+ or more, hypertension, abnormal vaginal bleeding, non-cephalic presentation, abnormal fetal heart rate.

Table S3. Clinical risk factors in women planning VBAC by planned place of birth

Risk factors	OU n=1227		Home n=209	
	n	% ¹	n	% ¹
Cardiovascular				
Confirmed cardiac disease	1	<1%	0	0.0
Hypertensive disorders	12	1.0	0	0.0
Respiratory				
Asthma*	3	<1%	0	0.0
Haematological				
Haemoglobinopathies*	1	<1%	1	<1%
Thromboembolic disorders	8	<1%	1	<1%
Atypical antibodies*	8	<1%	0	0.0
Infective				
Group B strep*	55	4.8	5	2.5
Hepatitis B/C/w abnormal LFT	2	<1%	0	0.0
HIV	1	<1%	0	0.0
Endocrine				
Hyperthyroidism	8	<1%	0	0.0
Diabetes	4	<1%	0	0.0
Renal				
Renal disease*	1	<1%	0	0.0
Neurological				
Epilepsy	2	<1%	0	0.0
Previous cerebrovascular accident	1	<1%	0	0.0
Gastrointestinal				
Liver disease*	2	<1%	0	0.0
Other medical				
	6	<1%	1	<1%
Previous complications				
Unexplained stillbirth/neonatal death*	12	1.0	1	<1%
Pre-eclampsia requiring preterm birth	22	2.1	1	<1%
Placental abruption*	3	<1%	2	<1%
Eclampsia	4	<1%	0	0.0
Uterine rupture	2	<1%	0	0.0
PPH with treatment/ transfusion	22	1.9	9	3.9
Retained placenta*	11	<1%	2	<1%
Shoulder dystocia	1	<1%	1	<1%
Current pregnancy				
Pre-eclampsia or pregnancy induced hypertension	15	1.2	1	<1%
Preterm labour or preterm PROM	2	<1%	1	<1%
Placental abruption	3	<1%	0	0.0
Anaemia*	4	<1%	0	0.0
Substance misuse	6	<1%	0	0.0
Alcohol dependency *	0	0.0	1	<1%
Gestational diabetes	27	2.3	4	1.8
Malpresentation	4	<1%	1	<1%
BMI>35 kg/m ²	73	5.7	6	2.7

Recurrent antepartum haemorrhage	1	<1%	0	0.0
Post-term (42 ⁺¹ -44 weeks)	11	<1%	4	1.5
Fetal				
Small for gestational age*	7	<1%	2	<1%
Abnormal fetal heart rate*	4	<1%	0	0.0
Oligo/polyhydramnios*	8	<1%	1	<1%
Other obstetric or fetal	6	<1%	2	<1%

* Some risk factor descriptions have been shortened. See NICE intrapartum care guideline for fuller description of marked risk factors.

¹ Probability weights are incorporated to account for differences in the probability of a woman being selected for inclusion in the study arising from differences in each unit/trust's period of participation and the stratum specific probabilities of selection of OUs.

Table S4. ‘Complicating conditions’ in women planning VBAC by planned place of birth

‘Complicating conditions’ noted by the attending midwife at the start of care in labour	OU n=1227		Home n=209	
	n	% ¹	n	% ¹
Prolonged rupture of membranes >18 hours	63	5.5	5	2.3
Meconium stained liquor	94	7.5	8	4.8
Proteinuria 1+ or more	27	2.1	1	<1%
Hypertension*	38	3.2	1	<1%
Abnormal vaginal bleeding	17	1.4	1	<1%
Non-cephalic presentation	11	1.1	0	0.0
Abnormal fetal heart rate	46	3.8	1	<1%
Other complications	6	<1%	0	0.0

* Some risk factor descriptions have been shortened. See NICE intrapartum care guideline for fuller description of marked risk factors.

¹ Probability weights are incorporated to account for differences in the probability of a woman being selected for inclusion in the study arising from differences in each unit/trust’s period of participation and the stratum specific probabilities of selection of OUs.

Table S5. Transfers in women planning VBAC at home

	Para 1 n=87		Para ≥2 n=122		All n=209	
	n	% ¹	n	% ¹	n	% ¹
Not transferred	37	43.3	90	75.4	127	62.9
Transfers before birth (total)	40	45.7	23	17.9	63	28.8
Failure to progress (1 st stage)	10	10.9	5	2.9	15	6.0
Fetal distress (1 st stage)	4	4.2	2	2.1	6	2.9
Meconium staining	7	7.5	2	3.8	9	5.2
Epidural request	2	2.2	2	1.2	4	1.6
Malposition	0	0.0	1	0.6	1	0.4
Antepartum haemorrhage	1	1.4	2	1.3	3	1.4
Failure to progress (2 nd stage)	10	12.1	3	2.3	13	6.1
Fetal distress (2 nd stage)	1	0.9	1	0.6	2	0.7
Pain relief	1	1.3	2	1.1	3	1.2
Risk factors and eligibility criteria	1	1.2	0	0.0	1	0.5
Other maternal (before birth)	2	2.0	1	0.6	3	1.1
Other fetal (before birth)	1	2.1	2	1.4	3	1.7
Transfers after birth (total)	10	11.0	9	6.7	19	8.4
Postpartum haemorrhage	3	3.2	1	0.6	4	1.6
Retained placenta	0	0.0	2	1.8	2	1.1
Repair of perineal trauma	7	7.8	1	0.7	8	3.4
Neonatal concerns	0	0.0	4	3.0	4	1.8
Missing (after birth)	0	0.0	1	0.8	1	0.5

¹ Weighted percentage. Note that weighting can result in percentages differing slightly for events occurring with equal frequencies, particularly when numbers are small (see methods).

Table S6. Mode of delivery in women planning VBAC by planned place of birth and parity

	OU n=1227			Home n=209		
	n	% ¹	(95% CI)	n	% ¹	(95% CI)
All women planning VBAC						
Para 1	787			87		
Spontaneous vertex	332	41.3	(37.7-44.9)	60	69.3	(59.8-77.5)
Vaginal breech	1	0.2	(0.0-1.2)	1	1.4	(0.2-10.0)
Ventouse	86	10.7	(8.5-13.5)	5	5.2	(2.0-12.8)
Forceps	82	10.9	(8.1-14.4)	1	0.9	(0.1-6.2)
Caesarean	286	37.0	(32.9-41.3)	20	23.2	(14.9-34.2)
Para ≥2	440			122		
Spontaneous vertex	334	74.8	(70.1-79.0)	110	91.0	(84.2-95.0)
Vaginal breech	0	0	-	1	0.6	(0.1-4.4)
Ventouse	10	2.3	(1.2-4.4)	2	1.4	(0.3-5.8)
Forceps	8	2.2	(1.1-4.5)	2	1.4	(0.4-5.3)
Caesarean	88	20.7	(16.6-25.6)	7	5.6	(2.4-12.3)
Overall	1227			209		
Spontaneous vertex	666	53.7	(50.5-57.0)	170	82.6	(77.6-86.6)
Vaginal breech	1	0.1	(0.0-0.7)	2	0.9	(0.2-3.9)
Ventouse	96	7.6	(6.0-9.5)	7	2.9	(1.3-6.6)
Forceps	90	7.7	(5.9-9.8)	3	1.2	(0.4-3.6)
Caesarean	374	30.9	(27.4-34.8)	27	12.4	(8.7-17.4)
All women planning VBAC with no additional risk factors						
Para 1	634			73		
Spontaneous vertex	269	41.7	(37.5-45.9)	51	70.7	(60.5-79.2)
Vaginal breech	0	0	-	1	1.7	(0.2-11.7)
Ventouse	77	12.0	(9.3-15.5)	5	6.2	(2.4-15.1)
Forceps	68	11.0	(8.0-15.0)	1	1.0	(0.1-7.3)
Caesarean	220	35.3	(31.2-39.6)	15	20.4	(12.3-32.1)
Para ≥2	300			97		
Spontaneous vertex	231	76.7	(70.8-81.8)	87	90.8	(82.8-95.3)
Vaginal breech	0	0	-	1	0.8	(0.1-5.4)
Ventouse	10	3.3	(1.7-6.4)	1	0.7	(0.1-5.0)
Forceps	6	2.7	(1.2-5.7)	2	1.7	(0.4-6.5)
Caesarean	53	17.3	(12.5-23.6)	6	6.1	(2.5-14.2)
Overall	934			170		
Spontaneous vertex	500	53.4	(49.9-56.9)	138	82.8	(76.9-87.4)
Vaginal breech	0	0	-	2	1.1	(0.3-4.7)
Ventouse	87	9.1	(7.1-11.6)	6	2.9	(1.1-7.4)
Forceps	74	8.2	(6.2-10.9)	3	1.4	(0.5-4.3)
Caesarean	273	29.3	(25.5-33.4)	21	11.8	(7.8-17.4)

¹ Weighted percentage

Table S7. Chance of vaginal birth in women planning VBAC by planned place of birth, parity and risk status

	Without additional pre-existing risk factors						With additional pre-existing risk factors					
	Without 'complicating conditions'			With 'complicating conditions'			Without 'complicating conditions'			With 'complicating conditions'		
	Events/Total	Wgt % ¹	(95% CI)	Events/Total	Wgt % ¹	(95% CI)	Events/Total	Wgt % ¹	(95% CI)	Events/Total	Wgt % ¹	(95% CI)
Overall												
OU	574/761	75.4	(71.1-79.3)	84/167	50.3	(42.0-58.5)	134/196	67.4	(58.5-75.2)	55/91	58.9	(48.0-69.0)
Home	138/158	87.8	(81.8-91.9)	10/11	93.6	(61.9-99.3)	30/34	88.6	(73.9-95.5)	3/5	54.7	(15.1-89.1)
Para 1												
OU	360/510	69.8	(64.9-74.3)	52/120	43.8	(35.1-52.9)	59/103	56.4	(44.8-67.2)	27/47	58.1	(41.0-73.5)
Home	53/67	79.2	(67.3-87.5)	5/6	84.5	(34.5-98.3)	9/12	73.4	(43.8-90.7)	0/2	0	-
Para ≥2												
OU	214/251	86.2	(79.8-90.8)	32/47	65.7	(48.8-79.4)	75/93	79.1	(70.0-86.0)	28/44	59.7	(43.5-74.1)
Home	85/91	93.4	(84.7-97.4)	5/5	100.0	-	21/22	96.1	(75.2-99.5)	3/3	100.0	-

¹ Weighted percentage