

# Re-stitching of a broken down perineal wound compared to leaving it to heal naturally

|                                        |                                                       |                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Submission date</b><br>08/12/2008   | <b>Recruitment status</b><br>No longer recruiting     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol |
| <b>Registration date</b><br>16/01/2009 | <b>Overall study status</b><br>Completed              | <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results            |
| <b>Last Edited</b><br>20/10/2017       | <b>Condition category</b><br>Pregnancy and Childbirth | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data                                                         |

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

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## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
9098

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

Perineal REpair following Vaginal delivery complicated by an Infected Episiotomy Wound: a feasibility study for a randomised controlled trial

**Acronym**

PREVIEW

**Study objectives**

Many women will require suturing to facilitate healing of the trauma site. However, practice varies widely between care given and established professionally agreed standards. There is limited data on the prevalence and consequences of perineal wound infection. In addition, there is only a small amount of information relating to the impact that perineal wound infection has on women's well-being during the immediate and long-term post-natal period. Anecdotal evidence suggests the number of women reporting perineal infections and dehiscence in the community is increasing; however, systems to track these complications following hospital discharge are lacking. Given that postpartum management of perineal trauma is a core component of routine maternity care it is vital that a true estimate of the problem is established using standardised definitions of wound infection and at the same time determine best practice when treating dehisced perineal wounds.

**Hypotheses:**

1. What is the prevalence of perineal wound infection and dehiscence in the UK?
2. What factors at the time of primary repair are most likely to be associated with perineal wound infection and dehiscence prior to discharge to the community?
3. What factors following discharge home are most likely to be associated with perineal wound infection and dehiscence in the community?
4. What are women's experiences of perineal infection and dehiscence and what types of information and support are most likely to benefit their post-natal recovery?
5. What is the best management for perineal wound infection and wound dehiscence?
6. What is the feasibility of conducting a definitive randomised controlled trial (RCT) comparing re-suturing of dehisced perineal wounds versus healing by secondary intention and what are the implications in terms of health benefits and costs?

**Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**

North Wales Research Ethics Committee, 29/04/2010, ref: 10/WNO03/16

**Study design**

Computer-randomised controlled feasibility study

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Study type(s)**

Treatment

**Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Dehisced perineal wounds

## **Interventions**

The participants will be computer randomised into either immediate resuturing of their dehiscd perineal wound in comparison to healing by secondary intention. Both groups will have an independent assessment of their perineal wound at 2 weeks and 6 weeks after trial entry. Both groups of participants will be asked to complete a questionnaire at 6 weeks, 3 months and 6 months after trial entry.

## **Intervention Type**

Other

## **Phase**

Not Applicable

## **Primary outcome(s)**

Time taken for the dehiscd perineal wound to heal, assessed at 2 weeks, 6 weeks, 3 months and 6 months, respectively.

An independent assessment of the primary outcome will be conducted at 2 weeks and 6 weeks using a questionnaire format, the title of the questionnaire being:

'PREVIEW' Independent Perineal Assessment 2 weeks, and

'PREVIEW' Independent Assessment 6 weeks

Mothers will also complete questionnaires at 6 weeks, 3 months and 6 months, respectively, also assessing primary and secondary outcomes, the title of these questionnaires being:

'PREVIEW' Mothers questionnaire 6 weeks

'PREVIEW' Mothers questionnaire 3 months

'PREVIEW' Mothers questionnaire 6 months

## **Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. Woman's satisfaction with aesthetic results of perineal wound at 6 months post-natal
2. Pain at 6 weeks, 3 and 6 months post-natal
3. Dyspareunia (painful intercourse) at 3 - 6 months
4. Rates of breastfeeding

Mothers will complete questionnaires at 6 weeks, 3 months and 6 months respectively, assessing primary and secondary outcomes, the title of these questionnaires being:

'PREVIEW' Mothers questionnaire 6 weeks

'PREVIEW' Mothers questionnaire 3 months

'PREVIEW' Mothers questionnaire 6 months

## **Completion date**

01/04/2011

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

1. Women (aged 18 - 40 years) referred to the perineal care clinic at the University Hospital of North Staffordshire
2. Dehiscd perineal wound (spontaneous second, third or fourth tear or episiotomy)
3. Occurs within two weeks following childbirth

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 years

**Upper age limit**

40 years

**Sex**

Female

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Women that have not given their written consent to participate in the study
2. Women who have delivered a stillborn infant
3. Women under the age of 16 years
4. Women who cannot speak English or cannot read or write

**Date of first enrolment**

01/04/2009

**Date of final enrolment**

01/04/2011

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

**Study participating centre**

University Hospital of North Staffordshire NHS Trust

Staffordshire

United Kingdom

ST4 6QG

**Sponsor information**

## Organisation

University Hospital of North Staffordshire NHS Trust (UK)

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Charity

### Funder Name

Smith and Nephew Foundation

### Alternative Name(s)

### Funding Body Type

Private sector organisation

### Funding Body Subtype

Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

### Location

United Kingdom

## Results and Publications

### Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

### IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

### Study outputs

| Output type                      | Details                          | Date created | Date added | Peer reviewed? | Patient-facing? |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <a href="#">Results article</a>  | nested qualitative study results | 10/02/2017   |            | Yes            | No              |
| <a href="#">Results article</a>  | results                          | 10/02/2017   |            | Yes            | No              |
| <a href="#">Protocol article</a> | protocol                         | 24/07/2012   |            | Yes            | No              |