A65899: China Labour and Delivery Survey

Current Project Brief

Objectives and Background

While caesarean section rates continue to increase worldwide, assessing the optimal rate of caesarean section remains elusive. Lack of a clear understanding of the complex web of causes governing this increase and lack of reliable and detailed data and information on labour, delivery, critical obstetrical complication and perinatal outcomes are part of the challenge. HRP is participating in a study aiming at improving this understanding in one of the countries with the largest increase in caesarean section worldwide: China.

The objectives of this study are (1) to describe the contemporary caesarean delivery situation in China, and identify the main contributors to the very high caesarean section rate; and (2) to describe the current situation of obstetric complications and perinatal outcomes. This is a multi-center, large-scale, cross-sectional, observational study to collect comprehensive labour and delivery information of 150,000 births in China. This study will also serve as a case-study for the utilization of the Robson classification whose implementation is critical in order to understand, monitor and optimize caesarean section rates at any level but particularly at healthcare facility level.

Geographic Location

Up to 200 hospitals throughout China.

Main deliverables

The large number of births included will be able to address several question. Among them: (1) a descriptive analysis on the current situation of caesarean section in China and by various maternal and hospital characteristics; (2) caesarean section rates and optimal caesarean section rates by Robson group; (3) identification of differences in practice and potential contributors to the variation in the caesarean section rate; (4) length of labour associated with optimal maternal and perinatal outcomes; (5) risk factors for serious pregnancy, labour and delivery, and postpartum complications.

Partners

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