



Optimal Cord Management

Dr Colin Peters
MCQIC Neonatal Clinical Lead
Healthcare Improvement Scotland

What are we talking about?

Delayed Cord Clamping

Deferred Cord Clamping

Optimal Cord Clamping

Optimal Cord Management

<34 wks

Benefits of 60 seconds

- Reduced mortality in preterm infants
- Greatest reductions seen in infants ≤ 28 weeks
- Reduced need for inotropes
- Reduced need for blood transfusion
- Not restricted to preterm babies

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Delayed versus Immediate Cord Clamping in Preterm Infants

W. Tarnow-Mordi, J. Morris, A. Kirby, K. Robledo, L. Askie, R. Brown, N. Evans, S. Finlayson, M. Fogarty, V. GebSKI, A. Ghadge, W. Hague, D. Isaacs, M. Jeffery, A. Keech, M. Kluckow, H. Popat, L. Sebastian, K. Aagaard, M. Belfort, M. Pammi, M. Abdel-Latif, G. Reynolds, S. Ariff, L. Sheikh, Y. Chen, P. Colditz, H. Liley, M. Pritchard, D. de Luca, K. de Waal, P. Forder, L. Duley, W. El-Naggar, A. Gill, J. Newnham, K. Simmer, K. Groom, P. Weston, J. Gullam, H. Patel, G. Koh, K. Lui, N. Marlow, S. Morris, A. Sehgal, E. Wallace, R. Soll, L. Young, D. Sweet, S. Walker, A. Watkins, I. Wright, D. Osborn, and J. Simes, for the Australian Placental Transfusion Study Collaborative Group*

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

The preferred timing of umbilical-cord clamping in preterm infants is unclear.

METHODS

We randomly assigned fetuses from women who were expected to deliver before 30 weeks of gestation to either immediate clamping of the umbilical cord (≤ 10 seconds after delivery) or delayed clamping (≥ 60 seconds after delivery). The primary composite outcome was death or major morbidity (defined as severe brain injury on postnatal ultrasonography, severe retinopathy of prematurity, necrotizing enterocolitis, or late-onset sepsis) by 36 weeks of postmenstrual age. Analyses were performed on an intention-to-treat basis, accounting for multiple births.

Preterm Perinatal Wellbeing Package

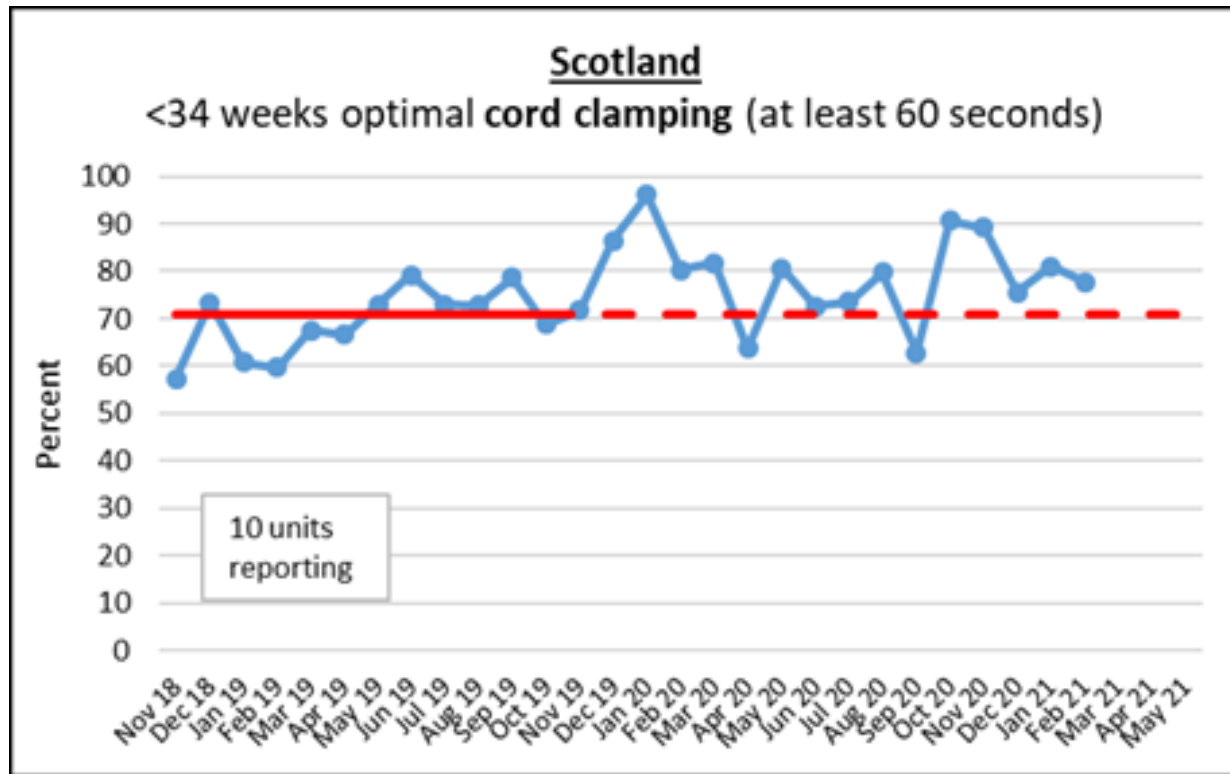
Optimal cord clamping (≥ 60 seconds) should be carried out for all infants unless specifically contraindicated e.g. no signs of life, Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome, evidence of major placental separation.

Delayed Cord Clamping



- Reduces mortality by **32%**
- Reduces intraventricular haemorrhage
- Reduces the need for blood transfusion

Optimal Cord Clamping Scottish Data



National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) Measure

- Deferred cord clamping for very preterm babies
- Does a baby born at less than 32 weeks gestational age have their cord clamped at or after one minute?

RCPCH Audits

**National Neonatal Audit Programme
2021 Measures Guide**

