

FETAL AND NEONATAL CLASSIFICATION

DEFINITION OF THE TERMS USED WHEN CLASSIFYING THE MAIN FETAL AND NEONATAL FACTORS INVOLVED IN PERINATAL DEATH.	FETAL AND NEONATAL CLASSIFICATION																																																														
<p>CONGENITAL ANOMALY. Any genetic or structural defect arising at conception or during embryogenesis incompatible with life or potentially treatable but causing death. Separate out deaths associated with a neural tube defect and death caused by chromosomal, cardiac or renal abnormality from death due to other miscellaneous or multiple abnormalities.</p> <p>ISOIMMUNISATION. Death ascribable to blood group incompatibility.</p> <p>ASPHYXIA BEFORE BIRTH (whether the baby is stillborn or not). Specify whether the insult originated before (8) or during (9) labour. All non-malformed stillborn babies are arbitrarily classified as dying of asphyxia unless death is due to a specific recognisable condition such as idiopathic hydrops fetalis, twin-to-twin transfusion etc, or there is evidence of malformation, isoimmunisation, trauma or infection. It would be assumed that asphyxia developed during labour unless there is reasonable evidence to the contrary if the baby was alive when labour started.</p> <p>BIRTH TRAUMA. Death during or after birth due to rupture of the liver, splenic avulsion, fracture/dislocation of the occipital bone, or due to serious damage of the falx, tentorium, great cerebral vein or cervical spine during delivery. Where there is clinical or post-mortem evidence of both asphyxia and trauma, death should be ascribed to asphyxia before birth (see above) unless it is clear that trauma is the more important factor.</p> <p>SEVERE PULMONARY IMMATURETY. Babies with structural immaturity of the lung so gross as to render sustained ventilatory support unsatisfactory from the outset. Such babies are almost always less than 27 weeks gestation at birth.</p> <p>HYALINE MEMBRANE DISEASE (HMD). Death due to pulmonary immaturity or surfactant deficiency or its late consequences. Specify whether there was significant periventricular bleeding (or infarction) (13) or secondary infection (14) as well.</p> <p>INTRACRANIAL HAEMORRHAGE (or infarction). Exclude intraventricular and periventricular haemorrhage associated with potentially lethal HMD (12-14), and other haemorrhage secondary to trauma (10) or asphyxia before delivery (8 or 9). Separate deaths due to intraventricular or periventricular haemorrhage or infarction (15) including periventricular leukomalacia (conditions that are normally associated with preterm delivery) from other intracerebral haemorrhages (such as subarachnoid or cortical haemorrhage) or cerebrovascular occlusion of the type more normally seen in babies born at term (16).</p> <p>INFECTION (including necrotising enterocolitis). Include antepartum as well as postpartum infection but exclude infection secondary to treatment for HMD. Separate deaths from necrotising enterocolitis from other deaths, and indicate, in the remaining cases, whether the infection was thought to have been acquired before the onset of labour, during delivery, or after birth. Specify site and organism.</p> <p>MISCELLANEOUS. Death due to other specific fetal and neonatal conditions. Specific fetal conditions include tumours, isoimmunisation, unexplained hydrops fetalis and death due to the twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome. Specific neonatal conditions include aspiration of milk or gastric contents, unexplained pulmonary haemorrhage, pulmonary hypoplasia due to prolonged loss of liquor (primary hypoplasia being classified as a malformation), persistent transitional circulation (in the absence of underlying aspiration or surfactant deficiency), and blood loss unassociated with trauma.</p> <p>UNCLASSIFIABLE OR UNKNOWN. Other inadequately documented deaths, unattended deliveries, unexpected and unexplained cot deaths (22) unattended deliveries not otherwise classifiable (23) and other undocumented death (24).</p>	<p>Categories at the head of the list take priority over those lower down. Only one number can be applied to any one death.</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Code</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Category</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>Congenital anomaly:- any structural or genetic defect incompatible with life or potentially treatable but causing death</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Chromosomal defect</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Inborn error of metabolism</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Neural tube defect</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Congenital heart defect</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Renal abnormality</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Other malformation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Isoimmunisation</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Asphyxia before birth</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>Antepartum asphyxia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>Intrapartum asphyxia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>Birth trauma</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>Severe pulmonary immaturity</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Hyaline Membrane Disease (HMD)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>Hyaline Membrane Disease</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>HMD with IVH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>HMD with infection</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Intracranial Haemorrhage (+ Infarction)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>Intraventricular haemorrhage (IVH)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>Other intracranial bleeding</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Infection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>Necrotising enterocolitis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>Antepartum infection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>Intrapartum infection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td> <td>Post partum infection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>Miscellaneous</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Unclassifiable or unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>Cot death</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>Unattended delivery</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>Other undocumented death</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Code	Category		Congenital anomaly:- any structural or genetic defect incompatible with life or potentially treatable but causing death	1	Chromosomal defect	2	Inborn error of metabolism	3	Neural tube defect	4	Congenital heart defect	5	Renal abnormality	6	Other malformation	7	Isoimmunisation		Asphyxia before birth	8	Antepartum asphyxia	9	Intrapartum asphyxia	10	Birth trauma	11	Severe pulmonary immaturity		Hyaline Membrane Disease (HMD)	12	Hyaline Membrane Disease	13	HMD with IVH	14	HMD with infection		Intracranial Haemorrhage (+ Infarction)	15	Intraventricular haemorrhage (IVH)	16	Other intracranial bleeding		Infection	17	Necrotising enterocolitis	18	Antepartum infection	19	Intrapartum infection	20	Post partum infection	21	Miscellaneous		Unclassifiable or unknown	22	Cot death	23	Unattended delivery	24	Other undocumented death
Code	Category																																																														
	Congenital anomaly:- any structural or genetic defect incompatible with life or potentially treatable but causing death																																																														
1	Chromosomal defect																																																														
2	Inborn error of metabolism																																																														
3	Neural tube defect																																																														
4	Congenital heart defect																																																														
5	Renal abnormality																																																														
6	Other malformation																																																														
7	Isoimmunisation																																																														
	Asphyxia before birth																																																														
8	Antepartum asphyxia																																																														
9	Intrapartum asphyxia																																																														
10	Birth trauma																																																														
11	Severe pulmonary immaturity																																																														
	Hyaline Membrane Disease (HMD)																																																														
12	Hyaline Membrane Disease																																																														
13	HMD with IVH																																																														
14	HMD with infection																																																														
	Intracranial Haemorrhage (+ Infarction)																																																														
15	Intraventricular haemorrhage (IVH)																																																														
16	Other intracranial bleeding																																																														
	Infection																																																														
17	Necrotising enterocolitis																																																														
18	Antepartum infection																																																														
19	Intrapartum infection																																																														
20	Post partum infection																																																														
21	Miscellaneous																																																														
	Unclassifiable or unknown																																																														
22	Cot death																																																														
23	Unattended delivery																																																														
24	Other undocumented death																																																														