

Perinatal Mortality Review Task and Finish Working Group

Principles of Review

1. There should be comprehensive and robust review of all perinatal losses from 22 +0 days gestation until 28 days after birth, excluding termination of pregnancy and those with a birth weight <500g (but organisations should aspire to include these also).
2. Such review should be conducted using a standardised nationally accepted tool, ideally web-based, that includes a system for grading quality of care linked to outcomes.
3. A multidisciplinary group should review each case at a meeting where time is set aside for doing the work.
4. There should be scope for parental input into the process from the beginning.
5. The outcome of individual reviews should be shared with the parents/families in a timely and sensitive manner.
6. There should be a quality control/review process with both internal and external peer review of cases.
7. Action plans generated by such reviews must be implemented and monitored.
8. There should be biannual reporting to the relevant Trust committee, with evidence of organisational learning.
9. These reports should feed up regionally, potentially to the NHS CB Senates, and nationally, potentially to the national Oversight Group, to allow benchmarking and publication of results, to ensure national learning.