## Organisation of perinatal care


### Standard in brief

**Birth & transfer**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Benefits</th>
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<td>• Improved medical care for all pregnant women and their partners, but especially for women at risk for pregnancy complications</td>
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<td>• Improved (physical and psychological) maternal outcome</td>
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<td>• Improved neonatal care and outcome</td>
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<td>• Improved education/training for healthcare professionals</td>
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<td>• Increased specialist expertise</td>
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### Statement of the standard

Perinatal care is organised in specialist and non-specialist centres to ensure access to optimal, preferably evidence-based, care with respect to medical knowledge, organisation structure, and staff.

### For parents and family

- Expectant parents are informed by healthcare professionals about the organisation of perinatal care and the importance of appropriate level of care.
- Expectant parents receive appropriate expert care.
- Care is relocated as close as possible to home as soon as clinically indicated.

### For perinatal unit

- A unit guideline on the management of high risk pregnancies is adhered to by all healthcare professionals.
- Expertise in the management of high risk pregnancies is developed in specialist centres.
- Capacity planning is facilitated.
- Care is enhanced by network based education in non-specialist centres.

### For healthcare professionals

- A unit guideline on the management of high risk pregnancies is available and regularly updated.
- Training on the management of high risk pregnancies is attended by all responsible healthcare professionals.
- Healthcare professionals practice as part of a regional perinatal care network with access to agreed protocols and guidelines.

### For hospital

- Training on the management of high risk pregnancies is ensured.
- Appropriate resources are available for the level of perinatal care.
- A continuous perinatal care quality improvement programme is established.
- Accommodation is available for the partner when required.

### For health service

- Regional perinatal networks are organised.
- A national guideline on the management of high risk pregnancies is available and regularly updated.
- Regional/national oversight is established to ensure safety requirements for pregnancy and birth.
- A perinatal information system to support quality assessment, certification, and audit of network units is established and maintained.

Here you can access the full standard: [https://newborn-health-standards.org/organisation-perinatal-care/](https://newborn-health-standards.org/organisation-perinatal-care/)