

European standards of newborn care: Paving the way for a healthier population

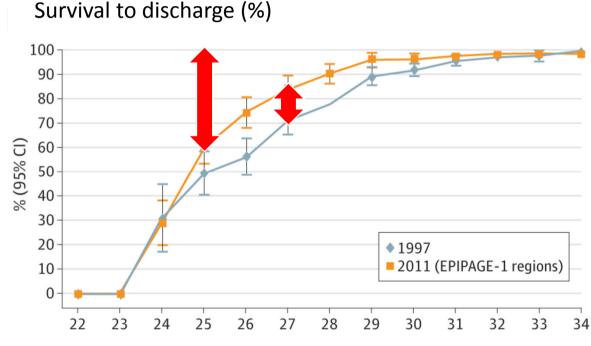
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Key messages

- 1. Premature birth = high risk of death or life long illness.
- 2. Inequality of health care and care provision in Europe results in terrible, life long consequences for babies.
- **3**. European doctors and nurses need training according to agreed professional standards.
- European Society for Paediatric Research (ESPR) and European Foundation for the Care Newborn Infants (EFCNI) strive to harmonise neonatal training and care throughout Europe.

EACH BABY COUNTS – PROGRESS BEING MADE, MUCH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE!

Only marginal gains in survival of premature infants, despite many improvements in perinatal care



Europe 2018: Premature babies still face an unacceptably high risk of death!

Gestational age in weeks (term birth = 37 – 41 weeks)

Ancel PY et al. JAMA Pediatr. 2015; 169: 230-238



PREMATURE BIRTH: LARGE VARIATION IN OUTCOMES IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF EUROPE

Preterm infants do not have equal chances throughout Europe

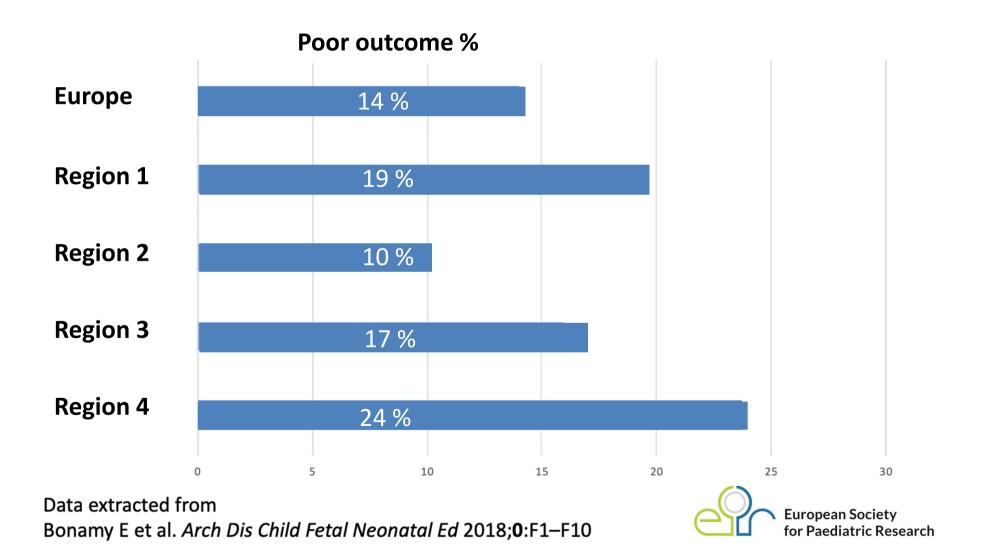
Variation in quality of care leads to differing outcomes, affecting:

- Intellectual development
- Eye disease, including blindness
- Lung disease ("chronic lung disease")
- Feeding disorders / growth impairment





European wide variations in care – Infants' outcomes should not be a "National Lottery"!



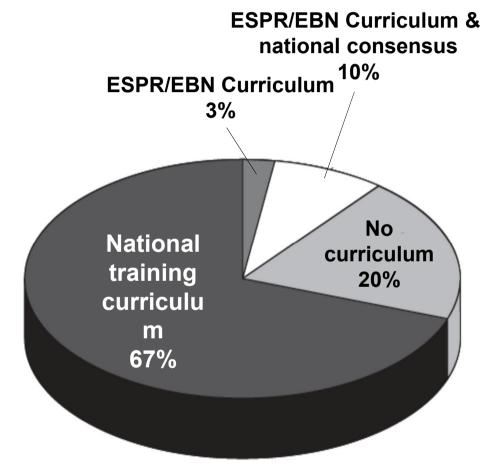
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS!

BEING TRAINED ACCORDING TO AGREED EUROPEAN

DOCTORS AND NURSES ARE NOT

Addressing disparities in European National Neonatal Training

- 1998: The European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) mandates ESPR to develop a European Neonatal Training Curriculum.
- Objective: Provide overarching advice to the national neonatal training programmes.
- 1999: The UEMS Paediatric Section and *European Board of Neonatology* (EBN = ESPR's educational arm) publish the 1st EU Curriculum and Syllabus for Training in Neonatology.
- **2018:** Publication of the 3rd edition.



Breindahl M.et al. Neonatology 2013;103:74–82

ESPR & EFCNI COLLABORATION TO IMPROVE NEWBORN CARE IN EUROPE

Synergistic actions

- Implement cutting-edge research in Europe
- Share knowledge through a growing international network
- Organise bi-annual congresses and workshops
- Develop **newborn standards of care**
- **Promote uniform implementation** of these standards
- Offer opportunities for **training** and **continued education**
- ... for the benefit of infants and their families!

ESPR & EFCNI – each baby counts!

- Significant illness and risk of death for premature babies despite improvements in perinatal care
- 2. Premature infants do not have the same chance of intact survival in different areas of Europe
- 3. Doctors and nurses around Europe are not trained in a standardised way
- 4. ESPR and EFCNI are working hard to harmonise neonatal training and care throughout Europe

For this, we need your ongoing support!



Thank you!