

Results The length of the reports ranged from 11–210 pages (average 86). A definitive purpose for the inquiry was stated in 6/10 reports. Half of the reports explained the inquiry methodology used (including reference to review tools).

The inquiry team was named and multi-disciplinary (MDT) in five reports (4–14 people); four reports described each person's role, but not their responsibilities. It was clearly stated that affected families were involved in four inquiries and relevant clinical staff in four. The inquiry team commented on good aspects of care provided by clinical staff in only four reports.

In the recommendations four main domains were identified: management of information; pregnancy loss care; maternity services governance; workforce staffing and training. The SMART principle (i.e. specific, measurable, achievable, realistic or time-bound) was not consistently applied to the recommendations in any report, thereby reducing the chance of implementation.

Conclusion This was the first structured review of pregnancy-loss national inquiry reports, highlighting some of the main issues arising from them. The methodology used during the inquiry process was clearly described in only half of reports. Clearly standardising inquiry processes and highlighting all relevant issues is essential. For this purpose, structured national report checklists can be a useful resource. Additionally, a selected external expert MDT, clinical staff and families should always be involved in the inquiry process. Recommendations made within inquiry reports, can have a profound impact on maternity services if implemented appropriately. This will be explored further in an analysis of all implemented recommendations.

P21

PATHWAYS TO ETHNIC DIFFERENCES IN OBESITY: THE ROLE OF MIGRATION, CULTURE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC POSITION IN THE UK

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Background Previous research has identified ethnic differences in abdominal obesity but has not fully explored the pathways that explain these ethnic differences, which may relate to individual and contextual characteristics. This research identifies ethnic differences in waist circumference for eight ethnic groups in England, before and after accounting for a range of individual-level and area-level factors. Three key pathways to obesity are explored: migration, culture, and socio-economic characteristics.

Methods Data come from four years of the Health Survey for England (1998, 1999, 2003 and 2004) and linked area-level data from the 2001 Census. The total sample size is 27,946. Multi-level modelling methods are used to account for individual-level and area-level factors. The main outcome measure is objectively measured waist circumference. Area-level variables are Index of Multiple Deprivation and Co-ethnic density.

Results The results show that migration to the UK has a strong association with ethnic differences in waist circumference – in particular, waist circumference increases with length of time since migration to the UK. Cultural characteristics and socio-economic characteristics are also associated with ethnic differences in waist circumference, but not to the same extent

as migration. The strong association between migration and waist circumference is partly attenuated by cultural characteristics and partly by socio-economic inequality. However, there is still a large association between migrant status and waist circumference that remains unexplained. Area deprivation has an association with ethnic differences in obesity.

Conclusion This research makes an important contribution to the study of ethnic differences in waist circumference in England. It is the first UK study to explore the associations of migration, cultural and socio-economic pathways with ethnic differences in waist circumference for a wide range of ethnic groups, using both individual and contextual data. The results illustrate the multi-dimensional nature of ethnic inequalities in obesity and the complex interplay between migration, culture and socio-economic inequality. Policy makers should focus on obesity prevention among child and adult migrants, particularly focussing on length of time since migration, the removal of barriers to educational attainment and employment among migrant populations and the effect of the areas that migrants live, particularly in relation to area deprivation. Obesity is an important factor in many health-related outcomes so the regular tracking of ethnic inequalities in obesity and a clear understanding of the pathways behind these differences is fundamental for improving the health of ethnic minority people.

P22

USING NATIONAL HOSPITALISATION DATA TO EXPLAIN TRENDS IN INPATIENT ADMISSIONS FOR COPD IN IRELAND

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Background Ireland has the highest rates of hospitalisations for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) of all OECD countries (369/100,000 in 2017, compared with OECD average of 200/100,000). We analysed national hospitalisation data to investigate the characteristics of these hospitalisations and how they have changed over time to assist in programme planning and identify areas for intervention.

Methods Using Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE), a national discharge database for episodes of admitted care in acute public hospitals, we undertook a longitudinal review of trends in inpatient hospitalisations for COPD between 2009 and 2017. COPD hospitalisations were identifiable by ICD-10-AM codes J40-J44 and J47. We standardised against two populations: 1) sex-specific rates against the OECD pop and 2) age-sex rates to the Irish population for adults aged 15 years and over

Results The prevalence of overnight hospitalisations increased for females from an age-standardised rate of 367.5/100,000 in 2009 to 393.0/100,000 in 2017, and declined for males 391.6/100,000 to 343.5/100,000. Between 2009 and 2017, age-specific rates in males declined across most age categories, with the decline most pronounced in the 80–84 year age group. In contrast, females saw an increase in rates across the majority of age categories.

In 2017, rates were significantly higher amongst women in each 5 - year age category ≤ 70 years, apart from the 55–59