

See also similar discussions concerning “Place of Birth” and “Method of Birth”

# **B08. Pain Relief for Labour and Birth**

1. **Introduction**
2. **Examples of incompatible paper based definitions which do not make sense when applied to flow-patterned computerised systems.**
3. **Suggested single flow-patterned set of Questions and All Allowable Answer Options (Much more work needed!!!!)**

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**Any Comments, Criticisms, Corrections, Feedback  
or Suggestions for Improvement very welcome**

# 1. Introduction

Needs much further work to bring this paper up to date taking into account the work done to create the Logical Priority dataset, especially the need to separate “Pain Relief/Analgesia/Anaesthesia” which (a) involves the Anaesthetic department (e.g. Epidural) and which therefore, in time to avoid duplicate data entry, needs to be transferred to, or from, the Anaesthetic Department computer via a standardised electronic dataset.

What is set out below were just my original, now outdated version as used by the Protos maternity computer system

## 2. “Pain Relief” and “Analgesia/Anaesthesia” Samples

**Any attempt to use a computer in sensible minimal-work manner is impossible using the present variety of confusing proposals as set out below**

Korner Maternity Basic

Anaesthesia and Analgesia for  
Labour and Delivery

0. General Anaesthesia
1. Epidural or Caudal Anaesthesia
2. Spinal Anaesthesia
3. General & Epidural or Caudal
4. General and Spinal
5. Epidural or Caudal & Spinal
6. Other (including none)

25. Anaesthesia and Analgesia (+)  
Post Delivery

0. General Anaesthesia
1. Epidural or Caudal Anaesthesia
2. Spinal Anaesthesia
3. General & Epidural or Caudal
4. General and Spinal
5. Epidural or Caudal & Spinal
6. Other (including none)

### KORNER MATERNITY ANAESTHESIA EXTRA OPTIONS

*(Requiring data to be entered separately for each stage of each birth. Why?)*

#### ANAESTHESIA AND ANALGESIA FOR LABOUR

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Self Administered Inhalation          | No / Yes / Unknown / Not applicable              |
| Narcotics                             | No / Yes / Unknown / Not applicable              |
| Epidural or Caudal                    | No / Yes / Unknown / Not applicable              |
| Spinal                                | No / Yes / Unknown / Not applicable              |
| Local Infiltration                    | No / Yes / Unknown / Not applicable              |
| General Anaesthesia                   | No / Yes / Unknown / Not applicable              |
| Other                                 | No / Yes / Unknown / Not applicable              |
| Reason for Epidural, Caudal or Spinal | Pain Relief / As an Anaesthetic for an Operation |

## ANAESTHESIA AND ANALGESIA FOR DELIVERY

Repeat all of the above

## ANAESTHESIA AND ANALGESIA FOR POST-DELIVERY

Repeat all of the above again

## **The National Maternity Services Dataset. (March 2010 version)**

**It is hard to believe but over 25 years later we now have even worse confusion by an NHS organisation that is supposed to understand computers!**

**Under a single item heading the NMSD now includes all of the following supposedly exclusive answer options to what they call a single data item (but what normal people would call “a question”!!**

### **“Pain Relief?”**

1. TENS
2. Inhalational analgesia
3. Narcotics
4. Perineal infiltration
5. Regional - spinal
6. Regional - epidural
7. Regional - combined spinal/epidural
8. Regional - pudendal
9. Regional - spinal catheter
10. Paracetamol
11. Water
12. Complementary therapies
13. other
14. None
15. Not known

### **3. Preliminary Suggestions for flow-patterned Electronic Questions and All Allowable Answer Aptions concerning “Pain Relief” in Labour and for Birth (*The original Protos version now in urgent need for revision*)**

#### **FOR LABOUR**

Narcotics

Self-administered inhalational

TENS

Water immersion

#### **EPIDURAL FOR LABOUR**

This section is for Epidurals given for the Labour ONLY. Details of Regional Anaesthesia (Epidural/Spinal/Caudal) given specifically for the Birth itself are dealt with in the next protocol.

#### **Epidural given for Labour**

Answer ‘Yes’ if an epidural was given during the FIRST stage of labour. You will be asked about analgesia during the second and third stage of labour in a subsequent protocol. Do not answer ‘Yes’ if that epidural was solely for an emergency caesarean section, as details of analgesia for delivery are collected in Birth - Section C. If no epidural was given you will automatically skip the following questions about the epidural but will be asked to provide details about why an epidural was not given.

## Mother's Attitude to Epidural

Her request  
No strong feelings  
Reluctant  
Persuaded with difficulty  
Other  
Unknown

What was the mother's attitude to the Epidural. Was she requesting it, or was she reluctantly accepting it on medical advice. This question has been asked so an audit can more easily be made of the often independent medical and mother's reasons for an Epidural.

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Medical Indication for Epidural,     | ZMLSE |
| Inserted by,                         | ZMLSF |
| Status                               |       |
| Epidural resited at any time,        | ZMLSD |
| Success of Epidural,                 | ZMLSG |
| IF EPIDURAL WAS NOT GIVEN FOR LABOUR |       |
| An epidural was,                     | ZMLSH |
| Never considered or requested        |       |
| Requested but not performed          |       |
| If "Requested but not performed"     |       |
| Main reason for request,             | ZMLSK |
| Main reason why not given,           | ZMLSJ |

## FOR BIRTH

Answer 'Yes' ONLY if some form of Anaesthesia/Analgesia was used SPECIFICALLY for the birth itself e.g. G/A, Spinal and was not simply a continuation of the Anaesthesia/Analgesia used for Labour.

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Birth Analgesia/Anaesthesia, ZMb70 | Yes / No |
| If 'Yes' then                      |          |
| Self_administered_Inhalation       | Yes / No |
| Pudendal_Block                     | Yes / No |
| Local_Infiltration                 | Yes / No |
| Epidural                           | Yes / No |
| Spinal                             | Yes / No |
| Caudal                             | Yes / No |
| General_Anaesthetic                | Yes / No |

Answer yes here only if any form of anaesthesia/analgesia/pain control was used specifically to cover an intervention during the birth process.

So if the Mother had an epidural during the first stage for contraction pains and then had a spontaneous or forceps delivery, answer no to this

question. But if a caudal was put in for a forceps delivery answer Yes.

If more than one method of analgesia was used then answer Yes to all the questions that are appropriate.

## AFTER DELIVERY

Any P/N Analgesia/Anaesthesia ZMC30

No

Yes

Was any anaesthesia used for the third stage?

If 'Yes' then

Continued Birth Anaesthesia?

ZMC31

If Yes then copy answer from above

If 'No' (i.e. a fresh form of anaesthesia for the third stage) then

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Local_Anaesthetic   | Yes / No |
| Epidural            | Yes / No |
| Spinal              | Yes / No |
| General_Anaesthetic | Yes / No |
| Other               | Yes / No |

Only answer No if any Anaesthesia/Analgesia was started in the Labour Ward after the birth of the baby for a specific reason e.g. For a retained

placenta etc. Answer Yes if for example the local anaesthetic, pudendal block or epidural used for a forceps or for an episiotomy is still working

and is used for example to control the pain of the episiotomy suturing. If you answer No you will be given a list of possible Anaesthesia/Analgesia.

Answer Yes against those that were used.

Previous Filepath: RISCOS: EEPD.14\_COMPLEX.Anaes-10 (28th May 2008)