

The quality of documentation of operative vaginal deliveries and its strategic improvement in an obstetric unit : An audit

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INTRODUCTION

- Operative vaginal delivery (OVD) is a key component in modern obstetric practice despite being associated with complications leading to litigation.
- In the context of rising caesarean section related complications like placenta praevia and accreta with high maternal morbidity and mortality, improving the standards of OVDs in all aspects is a timely requirement.

OBJECTIVES

- This audit was performed to evaluate the documentation of operative vaginal deliveries (OVD) and identify and implement the strategies to improve the quality of documentation.

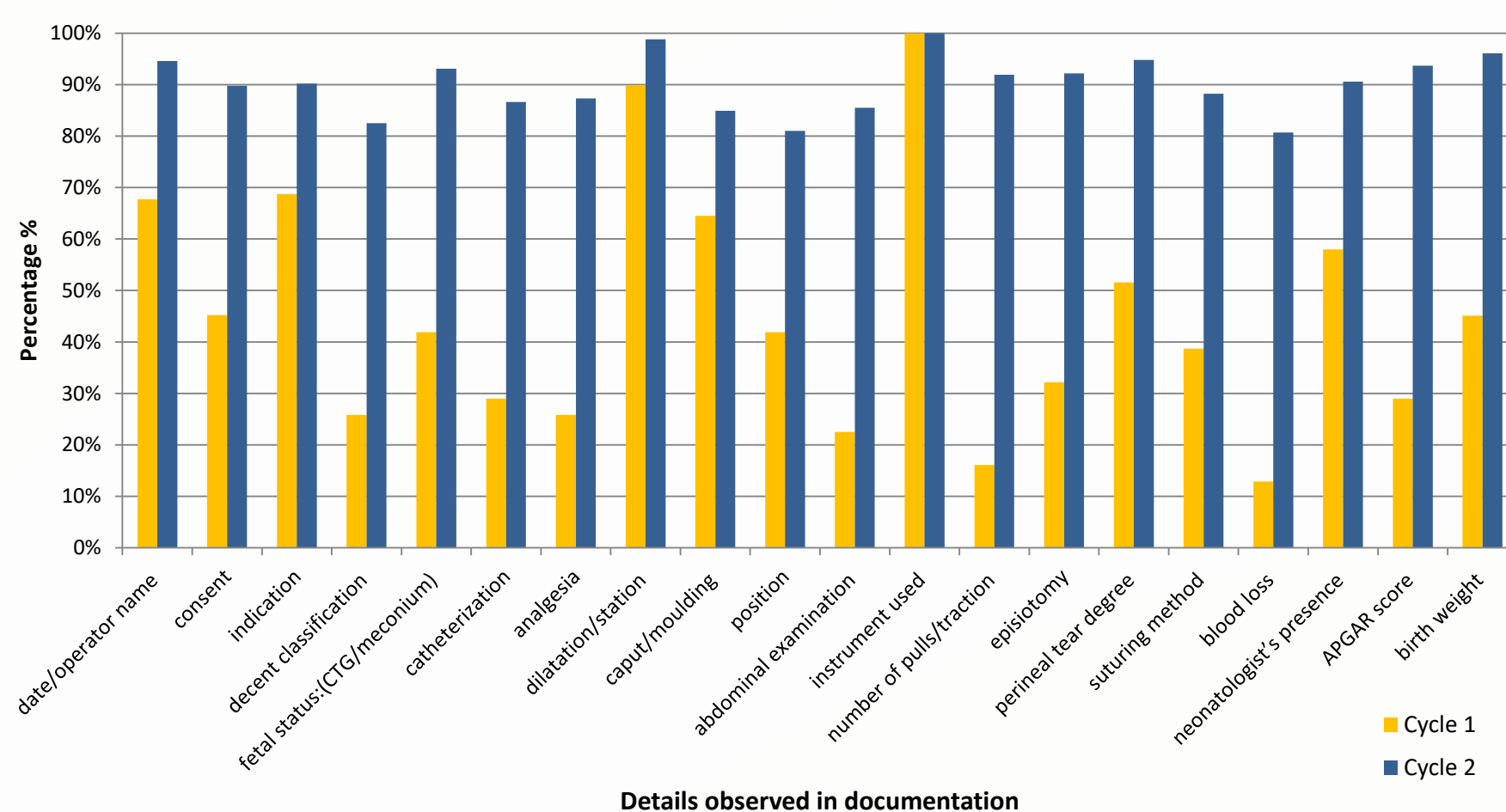
METHODS

- A two-cycle retrospective clinical audit was conducted De Soysa Hospital for Women, Colombo, Sri Lanka involving 31 and 29 OVDs respectively.
- Operative vaginal delivery record in RCOG Green-top Guideline No.26 was the selected standard.
- Prevailing documentation practices were evaluated by a delivery note review in the initial cycle.
- Subsequently an OVD record sheet adapted from the audit standard was introduced which should be completed by the operator him/herself. The outcome of this new policy was evaluated in second cycle.
- Variables were described by percentages and frequencies.

RESULTS

- The percentages of OVDs were 8.9% and 8.1% of the total deliveries in the two audit cycles respectively.
- Over 80% completion was noted in every component in 2nd cycle following implementation of new strategies.

Chart 1 : Percentage of documented details observed in the 2 consecutive audit cycles



CONCLUSION

- An improvement of the quality of documentation of OVDs is apparent when standard proforma is in routine practice.
- Immediate documentation of the event by the operator him/herself results in more comprehensive and accurate recording of OVDs.

REFERENCES

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