

# Suspected Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy (HIE): a local review comparing coding with neonatal outcomes

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## Introduction

Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy (HIE), is a brain injury caused by the interruption of oxygen supply, which can occur during the antenatal, intrapartum or postpartum period. With an incidence of 1 - 3.5 per 1000 live births in the UK, it is significant cause of neurodevelopmental morbidity and mortality.

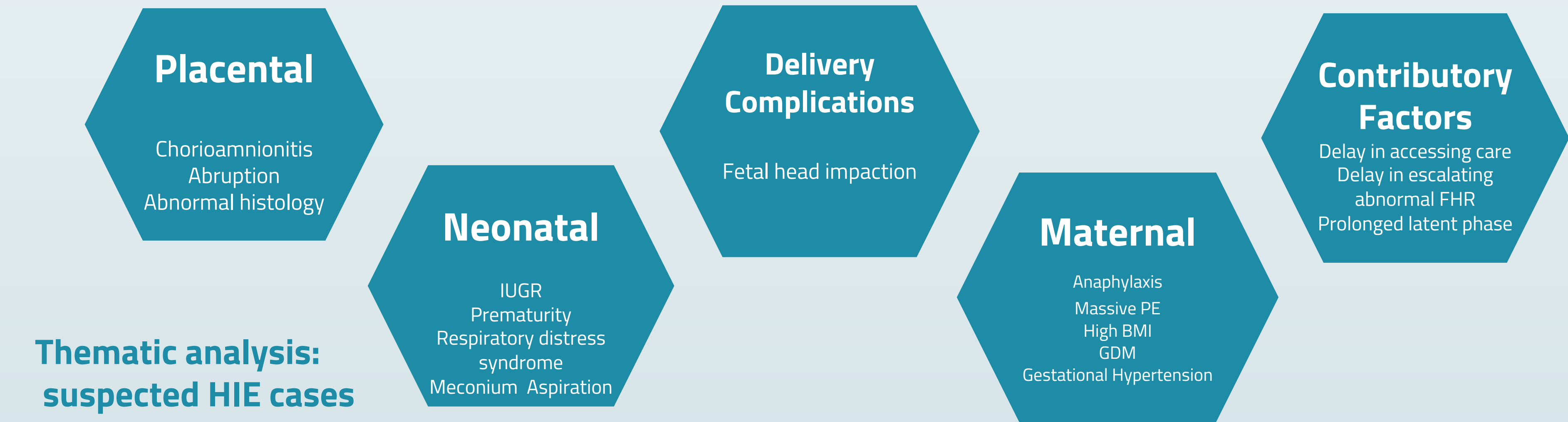
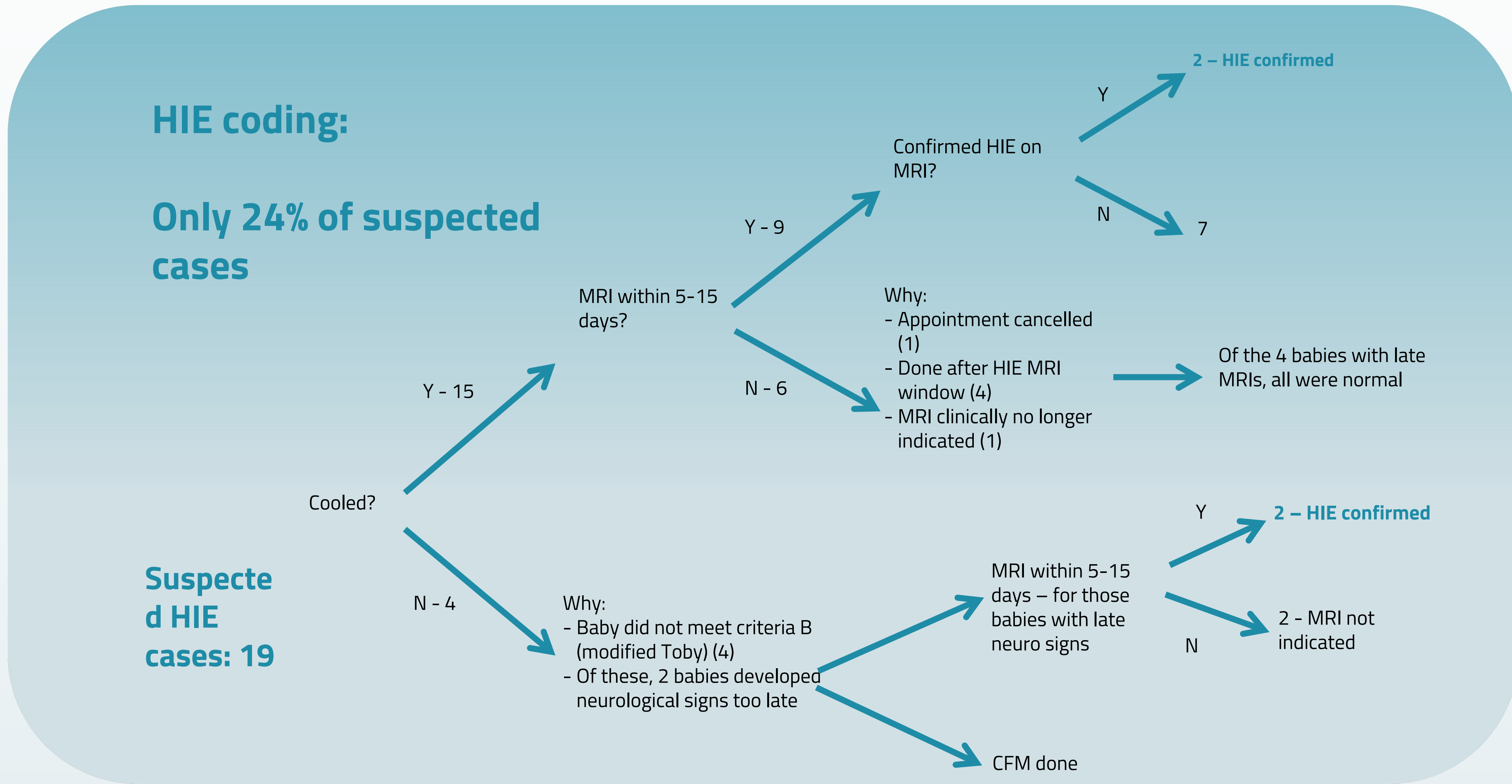
We performed a local deep dive review into all cases of suspected HIE during the period of 2020-2022. There was a suspicion of over coding of HIE and limited communication between obstetrics and neonatal teams regarding long term follow up. We aimed to improve the way HIE is recorded by establishing a joint neonatal and obstetric database.

## Methodology

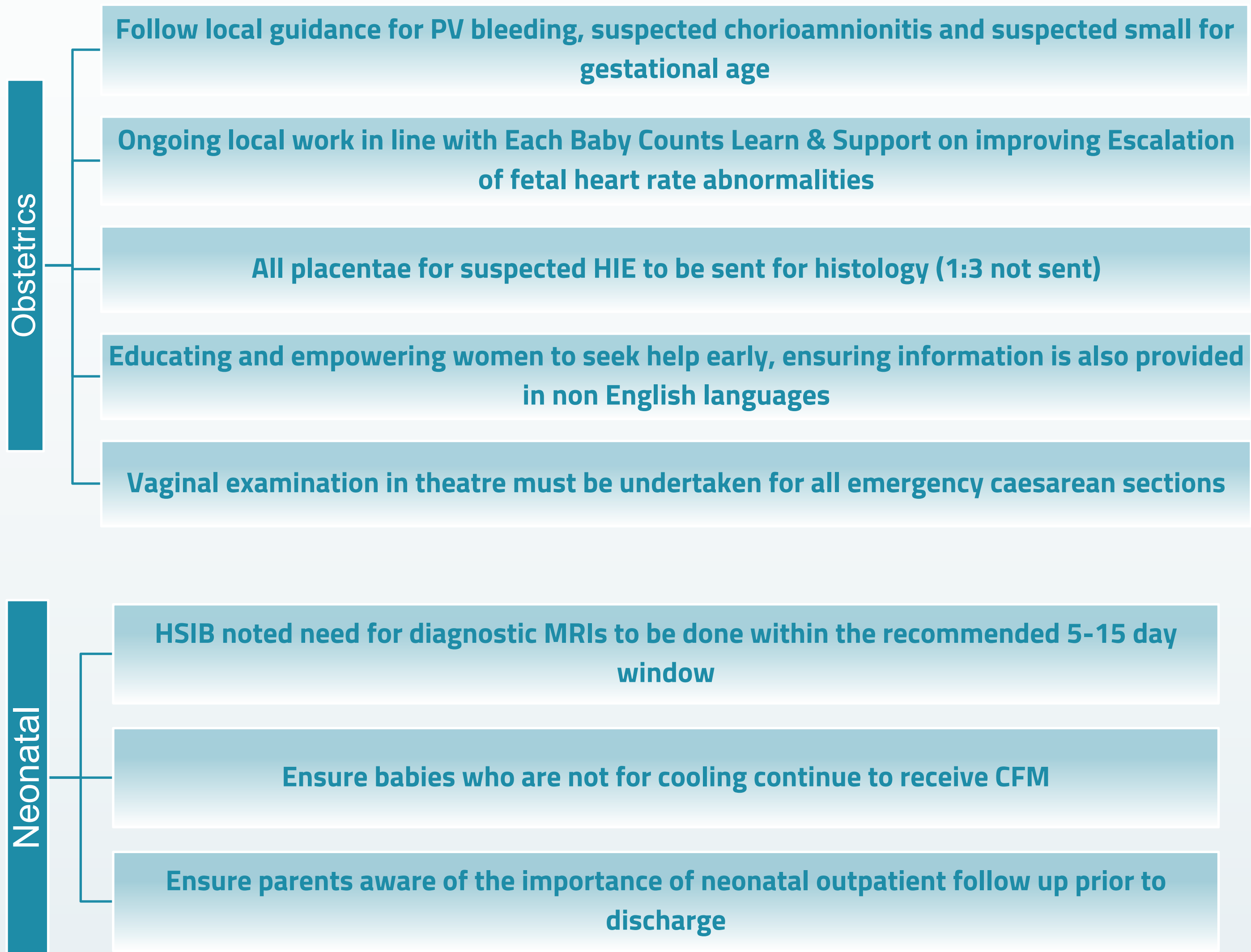
Between 01/01/2020 and 31/12/2022, Whipps Cross Hospital (a diverse inner London teaching hospital) had a total of 19 ‘suspected HIE’ cases reported on Badgernet, a figure significant enough to necessitate a formal review. However, no formal database existed for the monitoring of these cases.

A retrospective audit was undertaken using local neonatal and obstetric electronic patient records, HSIB and SI reports for all cases of suspected HIE from 2020-2022.

## Results



## Actions from HSIB and local SI reports



## Conclusion

We report all cases of HIE, yet it appears that a majority of suspected or mild HIE type 1 are healthy babies both in terms of short and long term neurodevelopment, and on MRI imaging.

As a 4000 a year delivery unit our true HIE rate from 2020-2022 is 0.5 babies per 1000, below the national average. This project has helped us identify where we can improve practice and follow up of HIE cases. We are in the process of establishing a joint database to differentiate between suspected and confirmed HIE cases, and a local teaching day to reinforce HSIB and local risk recommendations from all of the reported cases.