

◎ Background & Hypothesis

- **Background:** Cesarean Delivery (CD): >1.1 million births – US (2023) ¹
- **Problem:** Severe surgical complications can occur during CD ²
 - Non-obstetric patients: Surgical complications → ↑ postoperative readmission ³
- **Aim:** Examine association: surgical complications during CD - postpartum readmission risk
- **Justification:** Inform quality improvement efforts; reduce morbidity
- **Hypothesis:** Severe surgical complications during CD ~ ↑ postpartum readmission risk

1. Osterman. Natl Vital Stat Rep 2025:1.

2. Zelop. Clin Obstet Gynecol 2004;47:386-93

3. Glance. JAMA Surg 2014;149:439-45.

© Study Design and Methods

- **Study Design:** Retrospective cross-sectional population-based study
- **Data Source:** Linked California Vital Statistics and hospital discharge data
- **Study Population:** Cesarean delivery in California (10/15 – 10/21); singleton pregnancies; 20 – 44 weeks' gestation
- **Exposure:** Severe Perioperative Surgical Morbidity (SPSM) ¹
- **Outcome:** All-cause postpartum readmission ~ upto 42 days post-discharge
- **Statistics:** Readmission rates; GEE models – RRs, aRRs; risk differences

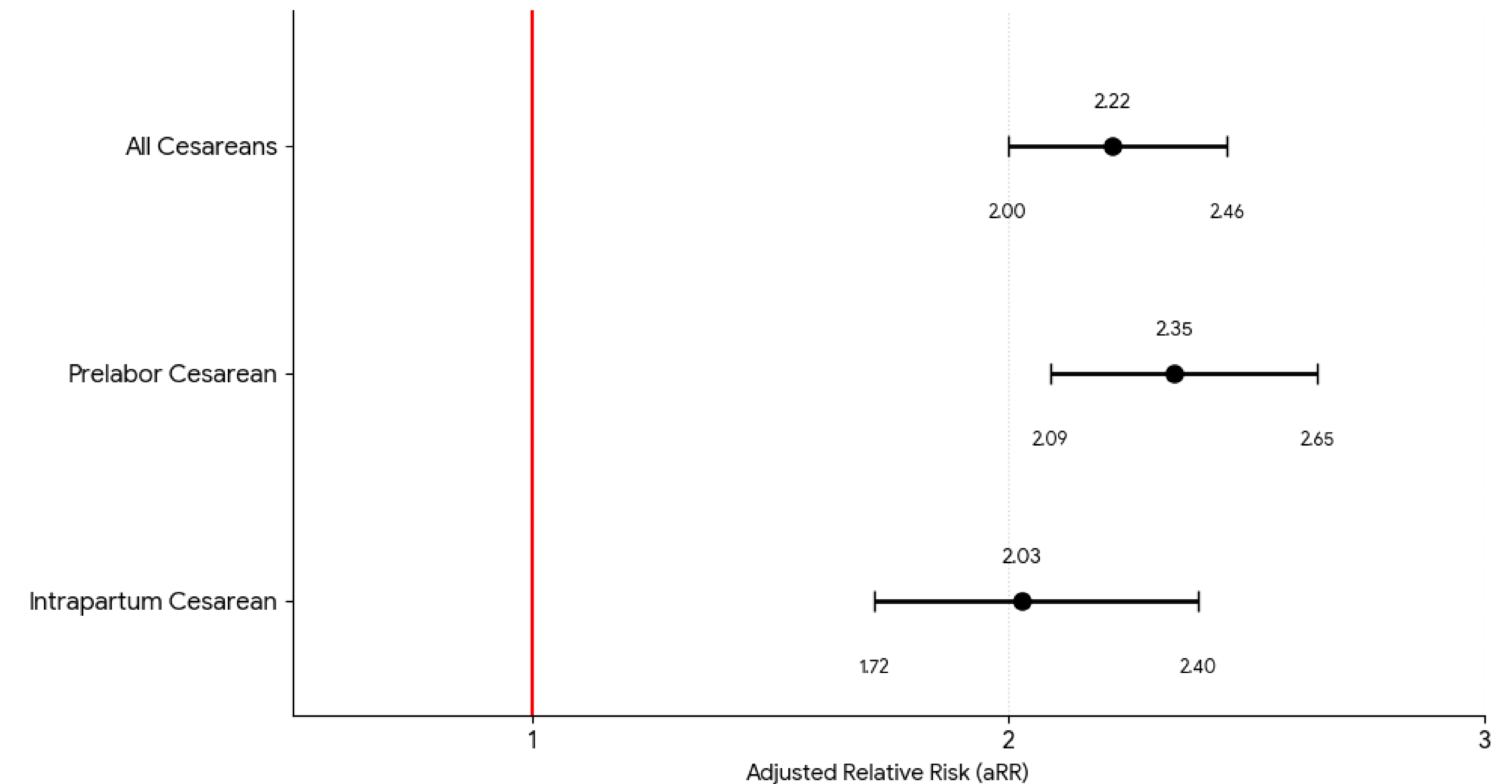
1. Butwick. Obstet Gynecol 2025 epub.

◎ Results

- **Study Cohort:** 703,079 CDs; 9,880 (1.4%) = SPSM

Readmission	Patients with perioperative surgical morbidity	Patients without perioperative surgical morbidity
All Cesarean deliveries	N = 9,880	N = 693,199
Readmission within 42 days (per 10,000)	469.4 (428.0 – 511.0)	165.3 (162.3 – 168.3)
Prelabor Cesarean deliveries	N = 4,615	N = 430,976
Readmission within 42 days (per 10,000)	405.7 (348.6 – 461.8)	146.4 (142.8 – 150.0)
Intrapartum Cesarean deliveries	N = 5,265	N = 262,223
Readmission within 42 days (per 10,000)	526.2 (464.9 – 587.5)	196.4 (191.0 – 201.8)

Association Between SPSM and Risk of Postpartum Readmission



Most common readmission diagnosis among SPSM = wound infection (77 per 10,000)

© Conclusion and Discussion

- Patients with SPSM – **Two-fold** ↑ **readmission risk** upto 42-days post-discharge
- **SPSM readmission rate (4.7%)** – higher than for CD patients (1.7%) ¹
- Wound infection: **most common diagnosis** among readmitted SPSM cohort
- **To reduce postpartum readmission risk for SPSM patients:**
QI initiatives / Improved coordination between in- & out-patient teams

1. Clapp. J Perinatol 2017;37:355-9.