## **Appendix**



Prioritised research areas within the fields of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of birth injuries, report 291 (2018)

## **Appendix 1** A description of terms and a list of evidence gaps.

**Table 1** Description of terms and concepts.

Table 1 Description of terms and concepts.			
Acute uterine prolapse	The uterus slips from its place into the vagina. Uterine prolapse can cause defecation and urinary problems as well as discharge and bleeding		
Anal incontinence	A lack of bowel movement control leading to involuntary loss of bowel contents		
Pubic symphysis	A cartilaginous joint that sits between and joins left and right superior rami of the pubic bones		
Diastasis	The separation of parts of the body that are normally joined together, such as the separation of certain abdominal muscles during pregnancy, or of adjacent bones without fracture		
Deeper vaginal tear	A laceration of the posterior vaginal wall so deep that the fat tissue underneath the mucosa and connective tissue is exposed		
Fistula	An abnormal connection between two hollow spaces		
First degree tear	Laceration of the fourchette and superficial perineal skin or vaginal mucosa		
Second degree tear	Laceration beyond fourchette, perineal skin and vaginal mucosa to perineal muscles and fascia, but not the anal sphincter		
Third degree tear (partial anal sphincter rupture)	Tearing of the fourchette, perineal skin, vaginal mucosa, muscles and anal sphincter		
Fourth degree tear (total anal sphincter rupture)	Tearing of the fourchette, perineal skin, vaginal mucosa, muscles, anal sphincter, and rectal mucosa		
Hemorrhoid	Enlarged vascular structures in the anal canal		
Episiotomy	A surgical incision of the perineum and the posterior vaginal wall. Episiotomy is usually performed during second stage of labor to facilitate a safer and easier passage of the baby. The incision resembles a 2-degree tear		
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Genital mutilation	All procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other surgery of the female genital organs
Levator ani muscle	A broad, thin muscle, situated on either side of the pelvis. It is formed from three muscle components. It is attached to the inner surface of each side of the lesser pelvis, and these unite to form the greater part of the pelvic floor
Perineum	Area between the anus and the vulva
Urine incontinence	Discharge of urine while coughing, jumping, or sneezing or exhibiting excessive urinary urgency
Uterus rupture	Rupture of the uterus
Dyspareunia	Painful sexual intercourse

**Table 2** List of all areas with evidence gaps that were prioritized. The evidence gaps are listed without mutual arrangement.

ID-nr	Name of the area with evidence gaps
ID-A	Prevention- measurements before delivery to reduce the risk of birth injuries
ID-B	Prevention- measurements during delivery to reduce the risk of birth injuries
ID-C	Diagnosis of birth injuries
ID-D	Treatment of first degree tear
ID-E	Treatment of second degree tear
ID-F	Treatment of third and/or fourth degree tears
ID-G	Treatment of deeper vaginal tear
ID-H	Treatment of injury caused by episiotomy
ID-I	Treatment of the levator ani muscle injury
ID-J	Treatment of acute uterine prolapse
ID-K	Treatment of the pelvic bones injury
ID-L	Treatment of diastasis of pubic symphysis
ID-M	Treatment of specific injuries in genitally mutilated
ID-N	Treatment of fistula between urinary bladder and vagina, or between anus and vagina
ID-O	Treatment of hemorrhoids
ID-P	Treatment of perineal pain
ID-Q	Treatment of dyspareunia
ID-R	Treatment of urinary incontinence
ID-S	Treatment of anal incontinence
ID-T	Treatment of defecation difficulties
ID-U	Treatment of uterus rupture

Table 3 Top 15-list to be prioritized during the workshop.

After the individual ranking by each group member, the following 15 areas were given the highest ranking

Rankning (1=highest rank)	ID-number	Area with evidence gaps
1	ID-C	Diagnosis of birth injuries
2	ID-B	Prevention- methods used during delivery with the potential to reduce the risk of injuries
3	ID-S	Treatment of anal incontinence
4	ID-F	Treatment of third and/or fourth degree tears
5	ID-I	Treatment of the levator ani muscle injury
6	ID-N	Treatment of fistula between urinary bladder and vagina, or between anus and vagina
7	ID-E	Treatment of second degree tear
8	ID-Q	Treatment of dyspareunia
9	ID-M	Treatment of specific injuries in genitally mutilated
10	ID-P	Treatment of perineal pain
11	ID-R	Treatment of urinary incontinence
12	ID-T	Treatment of defecation difficulties
13	ID-G	Treatment of deeper vaginal tear
14	ID-H	Tretament of injury caused by episiotomy
15	ID-A	Prevention – measurements before delivery to reduce the risk of birth injuries