

Title: Delivery and neonatal outcomes in women with antepartum severe maternal morbidity:
a population-based study.

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Running Title: Antepartum severe maternal morbidity

Abstract

• **Objectives:** To assess the incidence, causes, risk factors and adverse outcomes of antepartum severe maternal morbidity (SMM)

• **Design:** Population-based case–control study

• **Setting:** 119 Maternity hospitals, 6 French regions

• **Population:** All women with antepartum SMM (cases, N=601), a randomly selected control sample of women who gave birth without SMM in the same hospitals during the same period (controls, N=3650)

• **Methods:** Uni- and multivariable logistic regression with multiple imputation

• **Main outcomes measure:** Antepartum SMM, defined as a morbid event occurring from 22 weeks of gestation and before the onset of labour

• **Results:** Antepartum SMM complicated 0.33% of pregnancies (95%CI, 0.30-0.36). Rates of prematurity, neonatal mortality, and transfer to the neonatal intensive care unit were 10 times higher for babies whose mothers had antepartum SMM than for the control mothers. Similarly, emergency caesarean and general anaesthesia were more frequent in women with antepartum SMM. Risk factors for antepartum SMM were maternal age >35 (aOR 1.55; 95% CI, 1.22-1.97), increased body mass index (aOR for 5kg/m² increase, 1.24; 95% CI, 1.14-1.36), maternal birth in sub-Saharan Africa (aOR, 1.80; 95% CI, 1.29-2.53), pre-existing medical condition (aOR, 2.56; 95% CI, 1.99-3.30), nulliparity (aOR, 2.26; 95% CI, 1.83-2.80), previous pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders (aOR, 4.94; 95% CI, 3.36-7.26), multiple pregnancy (aOR, 5.79; 95% CI, 3.75-7.26), irregular prenatal care (aOR, 1.86; 95% CI, 1.27-2.72).

• **Conclusion:** Antepartum SMM is rare but associated with a massively higher incidence of adverse delivery and neonatal outcomes.

• **Keywords:** antepartum, perinatal morbidity, pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders, prematurity, severe maternal morbidity

- 51 **Tweetable abstract:** Antepartum severe maternal morbidity is rare but associated with a
- 52 massively higher incidence of adverse delivery and neonatal outcomes.

Introduction

Severe maternal morbidity (SMM), defined as a potentially life-threatening complication occurring during pregnancy or just afterwards, is a major indicator of maternal health. Data about the incidence of SMM are increasingly available: it ranges from 0.5 to 1.5% of deliveries in the most recent population-based studies.^{1,2,3,4} SMM is generally explored globally, without consideration of the timing of the morbid event relative to the delivery. But as the most frequent cause of SMM is postpartum haemorrhage (at least half of all SMM events),^{5,6} results from studies exploring SMM mostly reflect postpartum SMM. The study of antepartum SMM—before labour—remains inadequate, as information about the timing of the morbid event is rarely available. It may, however, have specific characteristics, with a different profile of causes, risk factors, and adverse consequences. Additionally, its management presents a unique challenge, in its need to optimize the risk-benefit balance for both mother and the child.⁷ Better knowledge of antepartum SMM might help to anticipate the occurrence of this complex situation and prevent its adverse outcomes.

EPIMOMS is a French population-based study specifically designed to explore SMM.⁸ Its prospective inclusion allows the separate exploration of antepartum SMM.

Our objectives were to use this population-based data to assess the incidence, causes, and risk factors of antepartum SMM and the adverse outcomes associated with it for both mother and baby.

Methods

Data came from the EPIMOMS prospective population-based study, conducted in 6 French regions (May 2012 - November 2013).⁹ The EPIMOMS study was funded with support from the French National Research Agency (*Agence Nationale de la Recherche* (ANR), Paris

France; grant no. ANR-10-BLAN-1134-01) and the Ile de France Regional Health Agency (*Agence Régionale de Santé Ile de France*, Paris, France; grant no. PPS784). The first step of EPIMOMS was to define SMM through an extensive national Delphi expert consensus process. This definition of SMM combined 6 diagnostic criteria (major obstetric bleeding, eclampsia, severe preeclampsia, pulmonary embolism, stroke, or psychiatric disorder), 6 organ dysfunction criteria (cardiovascular, respiratory, renal, neurologic, hepatic, or hematologic), and 2 intervention criteria (admission to an intensive care unit (ICU) or laparotomy after delivery), as well as maternal death (Appendix S1).

The source population included 182,309 women who gave birth in the 119 maternity units of 6 French regions, which account for one fifth of all deliveries in France. The characteristics of women and maternity units were similar to the national profile.¹⁰ All women who experienced a morbid event meeting the EPIMOMS SMM definition between 22 weeks of gestation and 42 days after delivery were prospectively included (N=2540). The prospective inclusion allowed to take into account the timing of the morbid event relative to the delivery, and to make the distinction between antepartum, intrapartum, and postpartum SMM. Besides, a 2% unmatched control sample of women without SMM was randomly selected among women who gave birth in the same maternity units during the same time period (control group, n=3651 women).

This analysis excludes among the women with SMM those for whom the date of the morbid event was missing (n=3) and those with intrapartum or postpartum (or both) SMM only (N=1936). Finally, we included all women who experienced SMM in the antepartum period, defined as a morbid event occurring from 22 weeks of gestation and before the onset of labour. Women with antepartum SMM but also intrapartum and/or postpartum SMM were included in the study population. Furthermore, this analysis included the entire group of control women (N=3651).

The causes of antepartum SMM, gestational age at occurrence of the morbid event and at delivery (in weeks) were prospectively collected by the clinician responsible for the woman. Data about women's social and demographic characteristics, pre-existing medical and obstetric conditions, pregnancy and delivery characteristics, and neonatal and maternal outcomes, were collected from a manual review of all available medical files by research midwives trained for this study; they were entered into an electronic case report form specifically designed for this study and used for the women in both the case and control groups.

Statistical analysis

We calculated the incidence of antepartum SMM among all deliveries and the proportion of antepartum SMM among all women with SMM. We described the causes of antepartum SMM as well as gestational age at onset of the morbid event and at delivery. Then we described and compared the characteristics of delivery and neonatal outcomes for cases and controls. Categorical variables were analysed with the Chi-square test or Fisher's exact test, and continuous variables with Student's t-test or the Kruskal–Wallis test, as appropriate. Using univariate and multivariable logistic regression models, we explored risk factors for antepartum SMM first globally and then for the most frequent causes of antepartum SMM, among social and demographic characteristics, medical and obstetric pre-existing conditions, and features of current pregnancy. BMI was the only continuous variable included in the final model. The selection of the variables included in the multivariable model was based on the available literature and on the results of the univariate analysis.

The proportion of women with missing data in the multivariable model was 32.1%. As the comparison of the characteristics of women with and without missing data supported the missing-at-random hypothesis, we performed multiple imputation with chained equations for

missing data according to Rubin's rule (30 datasets, Appendix S2).¹¹ Results are presented with imputed data. Analyses were also performed with non-imputed data.

STATA software was used for all analyses (Version 13; Stata Corp, College Station, TX). Statistical significance was set at a two-tailed value of $P < .05$.

Results

Among the source population of 182,109 deliveries, 601 women experienced antepartum SMM (0.33% of all deliveries, 95% CI, 0.30-0.36). They accounted for 23.1% (95% CI, 23.1-24.1) of all women with SMM (601/2540).

Severe pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders were the leading cause of antepartum SMM (52.1%), followed by exacerbation of chronic somatic conditions, psychiatric disorders (de novo or decompensation of a chronic psychiatric condition), and obstetric haemorrhage, each accounting for 8.7% to 9.6% of the cases (Table 1).

Compared with controls, women with antepartum SMM gave birth significantly more frequently by emergency caesarean (69.4% vs 13.6%) and with general anaesthesia (29.7% vs 1.2%), as well as before 37 weeks (73.0% vs 7.3%) and before 32 weeks (50.3% vs 1.4%). The proportion of induced prematurity among infants born to mothers with antepartum SMM was also higher than among controls (93.3% vs 49.6%) (Table 2).

Neonatal adverse outcomes were all significantly more frequent in women with antepartum SMM than in controls, with a significantly higher rate of stillbirths (9.6% versus 0.8%), and among live births, significantly higher rates of transfer to the NICU (65.4% versus 4.8%) and of neonatal mortality within the first 7 days of life (2.7% versus 0.1%). The median gestational age at birth was 32.9 weeks in babies born to mothers with antepartum SMM, compared to 39.3 weeks in controls, with median birth weights of 1890 g and 3266 g respectively.

Gestational ages at occurrence of the morbid event and at delivery differed according to the cause of SMM. In women with antepartum SMM due to pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders, both morbid event and delivery occurred before 32 weeks in more than 80% of the women. In contrast, among women with antepartum SMM from psychiatric disorders, the morbid event occurred before 28 weeks in 50% of women, but 80% of them gave birth after 37 weeks (Table 3).

In the multivariable analysis, risk factors for antepartum SMM were maternal age >35, higher BMI, maternal birth in sub-Saharan Africa, pre-existing medical condition, nulliparity, prior pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders, multiple pregnancy, and irregular prenatal care (Table 4). The same risk factors were found for antepartum SMM due to pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders (Appendix S3).

Analysis with non-imputed data provided similar results (Appendix S4).

Discussion

Main findings

In this population-based study, antepartum SMM complicated 0.33% of pregnancies and accounted for a quarter of all SMM cases. Half of the antepartum SMM cases were secondary to pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders. The other main causes of antepartum SMM were exacerbation of chronic somatic conditions, psychiatric disorders, and obstetrical haemorrhages. Women with antepartum SMM had much more severe and much higher rates of adverse neonatal outcomes than women without SMM; their preterm birth rate was 10 times higher, and half of their babies were born before 32 weeks. Moreover, their prevalence of interventions at risk of postpartum maternal morbidity, such as emergency caesareans and general anaesthesia for delivery, was also much higher than among the control group.

Strengths and limitations

Our study has several strengths. The prospective design of the EPIMOMS study provided detailed information, particularly on the timing of both the antepartum morbid event and the delivery and neonatal outcomes. We used a standardized definition of SMM, obtained by a consensus of national experts. This comprehensive definition is not limited to interventions or diagnostic criteria that might be influenced by local practices, but also includes severe clinical presentations such as organ dysfunctions. Consequently, the selection bias of women with antepartum SMM was minimized. The population-based design and the large source population, with characteristics similar to the national profile,¹⁰ provided good external validity. This study also has some limitations. For the study of antepartum SMM risk factors, controls should have included all the women without antepartum SMM, i.e., not only women without SMM overall, but also women with intrapartum or postpartum SMM. These women were not included in the EPIMOMS' control group. However, as they accounted for 1.1% of all deliveries,⁴ their omission from the control group probably had little, if any, impact on the associations we observed. The incidence of antepartum SMM we report does not include severe morbidity before 22 weeks, which may result in an underestimate for the entire duration of pregnancy. Data were missing for at least one variable included in the multivariable analysis in 32% of women. But because the characteristics of women with and without missing data were similar, we were able to apply multiple imputations.

Interpretation

Only one previous study, a retrospective population-based study from Canada, reported data about the incidence of antepartum SMM. Using national hospital database (2004-2015), the authors reported that antepartum SMM concerned 0.30% of all deliveries, very close to our results from prospective data.¹²

The profile of causes of antepartum SMM we report here differs from that of causes of SMM globally. As expected, pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders were the main cause of antepartum SMM. However, non-obstetric diseases, such as exacerbation of a chronic disease or psychiatric disorders, also account for significant proportions of antepartum SMM. As the prevalence of chronic diseases among pregnant women is increasing over time,¹³ this result highlights the importance of multidisciplinary care for these women, including in the pre-conceptional and antenatal periods, to prevent acute decompensation and antepartum SMM.¹⁴ Similarly, recent studies reported that antepartum psychiatric disorders, severe or not, concern 5% to 10% of pregnant women.¹⁵ Our study, specifically focusing on the severe end of the continuum of psychiatric disorders, emphasizes their contribution to SMM. It highlights the need for women with psychiatric disease to receive multidisciplinary care, as well as the importance of regularly assessing maternal mental health during prenatal care for those with de novo psychiatric disorders.

Our study shows that severe adverse neonatal outcomes, mostly severe prematurity and perinatal mortality, were much higher among babies of women with antepartum SMM. High rates of preterm birth have previously been noted in studies focusing on pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders,^{16,17} not among women with antepartum SMM overall and with non-obstetric conditions. Additionally, we were able to describe specifically other adverse outcomes, such as neonatal death <7 days, low birth weight, low pH, low Apgar score, and NICU admission. Preterm births were particularly prevalent in our study among women with antepartum SMM from pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders (94.6%), but not only: exacerbation of chronic diseases or antepartum obstetrical haemorrhage also led to preterm birth very frequently (63.6% and 70.6% respectively). Our approach also added information to the current literature about antepartum SMM from pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders, because the EPIMOMS definition of SMM focused on the severity of maternal outcomes. In

particular, women with severe preeclampsia and foetal extraction before 32 weeks were included only if the preterm delivery was performed for a main maternal indication.

Our study reports a high proportion of at-risk interventions for delivery among women with antepartum SMM, including caesarean deliveries, in particular emergency caesareans, and general anaesthesia. Although these interventions may be indicated in this context to improve maternal condition, they also constitute well-known risk factors for SMM.¹⁸ Caesarean delivery is an independent risk factor for intrapartum and postpartum SMM⁸ and for severe postpartum haemorrhage.^{19,20} A recent population-based study with propensity score analysis reported that the risk of serious maternal complications rose quite significantly among women who had general anaesthesia without clinical indication for a caesarean as compared to women who had neuraxial anesthesia.²¹ Preventing the occurrence of the antepartum SMM event may also prevent these interventions at risk for intra/postpartum morbidity.

In our study, risk factors for antepartum SMM and for antepartum SMM from severe pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders were very similar. These results may be explained by the fact that severe pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders are the most frequent cause of antepartum SMM. Interestingly, these risk factors for SMM due to pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders are also quite similar to those described for pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders overall, i.e., severe or not severe.^{22,23,24} These results suggest that, among these disorders, the specific phenotype of severe maternal complications is associated with the same at risk subgroups, such as multiple pregnancy and previous hypertensive disorder. Finally, women with non-obstetric risk factors, as well as those with obstetric risk factors for antepartum SMM we reported here, such as multiple pregnancy, deserve to receive prenatal care and to give birth in a maternity unit with all appropriate resources for mother and child.

Conclusion

Antepartum severe maternal morbidity presents a specific profile of causes dominated by pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders, but non-obstetric conditions also make a notable contribution and should be taken into account in the management of pregnant women. Although antepartum SMM is rare, it is frequently associated with severe outcomes for both mother and children, dominated by severe induced prematurity. Better knowledge of antepartum SMM would help to prevent, or at least anticipate, these adverse events and their harmful consequences, probably by optimizing pre-conceptional and prenatal care. Additionally, the identification of antepartum SMM risk factors should permit to focus on women or subgroups at risk of antepartum SMM. Then, individualized risk stratification could be applied to these groups and improve their care.

Further research, with a prospective design, is needed to explore the morbidity continuum and identify the specific individual and care-related factors associated with the occurrence of antepartum SMM among women with chronic conditions or non-severe pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders. Moreover, even though caesarean delivery or general anaesthesia are often justified in an antepartum SMM, careful assessment of the clear indications of these interventions and decision-making processes should improve perinatal care and help optimize clinical decisions in these complex situations.

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Disclosure of interests

MPB, who works in Armand Trousseau Hospital, (Paris), reports personal fees from Vifor Pharma Group, outside the submitted work. No other external funding or competing interests declared.

Contribution to authorship:

CDT, MPB, MR had full access to all the data in the study and take responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis. CDT, MPB and MG conceptualized the study and wrote the manuscript. MR and AS performed the statistical analysis. CDT obtained funding and supervised the study. All authors contributed to the analysis plan and interpretation of the results and reviewed and approved the final manuscript. All authors accept responsibility for the papers as published. CDT is the guarantor.

301

302 Details of Ethics Approval

303 The *Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés* (CNIL, no 912210), the French
304 data protection agency, approved the EPIMOMS study. The requirement for written informed
305 consent was waived, in accordance with French legislation at that time, because all women
306 received standard care and all data were anonymized. All women included were informed about
307 the study and did not indicate their objection to the use of their data.

308

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387 **Tables caption list**

388 Table 1. Causes of antepartum severe maternal morbidity

389 Table 2. Delivery characteristics and neonatal outcomes in women with antepartum severe
390 maternal morbidity and in controls

391 Table 3. Time of occurrence of the morbid event and of delivery in women with antepartum
392 severe maternal morbidity, overall and by causes

393 Table 4. Risk factors of antepartum severe maternal morbidity

394

395 **Supporting Information**

396 Appendix S1. EPIMOMS multicriteria standardized definition of severe maternal morbidity

397 Appendix S2. Characteristics of women with and without missing data

398 Appendix S3. Risk factors of antepartum SMM due to pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders

399 Appendix S4. Risk factors for-all cause antepartum SMM, analysis with non-missing data
400 (N=399 women with antepartum SMM and 2529 control women)

401

402 **Table 1.** Causes of antepartum severe maternal morbidity

Causes*	Women with antepartum SMM (N = 601)	
	n	%
Severe pregnancy-related hypertensive disorder ^a	313	52.1
Exacerbation of a chronic somatic disease <i>including</i> :	58	9.6
- Hematologic disease	14	24.1
- Nephropathy	8	13.8
- Cardiopathy	7	12.1
- Diabetes	5	8.6
- Chronic infection	5	8.6
- Neurologic disease	5	8.6
- Other ^b	14	24.1
Psychiatric disorder	52	8.7
- De novo	30	57.7
- Exacerbation of chronic disease	22	42.3
Severe antepartum obstetrical haemorrhage	52	8.7
Severe hepatic disease	33	5.5
Sepsis	24	4.0
Stroke	14	2.3
Pulmonary embolism	11	1.8
Other ^c	47	7.8

403

404 * Non-exclusive categories

405 ^a: including eclampsia, severe preeclampsia, HELLP associated with splenic rupture or
 406 hematoma

407 ^b: thromboembolic disease, autoimmune disease, inflammatory bowel disease, pulmonary
 408 disease, neoplasia

409 ^c: Gestational thrombopenia, thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura, trauma, acute pulmonary
 410 oedema, PRESS, peripartum cardiomyopathy, cardiac arrhythmia, hypoglycaemic coma,
 411 hyperemesis gravidarum, acute undernutrition, acute intoxication, Guillain-Barre syndrome

412 **Table 2.** Delivery characteristics and neonatal outcomes

	Women with antepartum SMM N = 601		Controls N = 3651		<i>p</i>
	n	%	n	%	
Delivery characteristics					
Delivery mode					
- Vaginal delivery	131	22.7	2906	79.6	<0.001
- Caesarean during labour	48	8.3	357	9.8	
- Caesarean before labour	399	69.0	386	10.6	
- Emergency caesarean	353	88.5 ^a	139	36.0 ^a	
General anaesthesia for delivery	171	29.7	43	1.2	<0.001
Neonatal outcomes					
Gestational age at birth (mean, SD), WG + days	32.9	4.8	39.3	2.1	<0.001
- 22 – 27+6	84	14.6	26	0.7	<0.001
- 28 – 31+6	206	35.7	26	0.7	
- 32 – 36+6	131	22.7	214	5.9	
- ≥ 37	156	27.0	3382	92.7	
Induced prematurity among preterm deliveries	393	93.3	132	49.6	<0.001
Status at birth					
- Alive	562	90.5	3680	99.2	< 0.001
- Per partum death	10	1.6	4	0.1	
- Intrauterine foetal death	49	7.9	25	0.7	
Birth weight (mean, SD), g	1889.7	1025.0	3265.8	580.3	< 0.001
- < 1500	264	46.2	55	1.5	< 0.001
- 1500 – 2499	134	23.4	207	5.7	
- ≥ 2500	174	30.4	3385	92.8	
Apgar <7 at 5 min ^b	92	16.4	52	1.4	< 0.001
Arterial umbilical pH < 7.0 ^b	22	3.9	13	0.3	< 0.001
Neonatal ICU transfer ^b	376	66.9	187	5.1	< 0.001
Neonatal death < 7 days ^b	17	3.0	3	0.1	< 0.001

413 ^a : among women with caesarean before labour414 ^b : among live births

Table 3. Gestational age at the occurrence of the morbid event and at delivery in women with antepartum SMM, overall and by causes

Gestational age (WG + days)	Antepartum SMM overall		Antepartum SMM from pregnancy-related hypertensive disorder		Antepartum SMM from exacerbation of chronic somatic disease		Antepartum SMM from psychiatric disorder		Antepartum SMM from obstetrical haemorrhage	
	N = 601		N = 313		N = 58		N = 52		N =52	
	SMM event	Delivery	SMM event	Delivery	SMM event	Delivery	SMM event	Delivery	SMM event	Delivery
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
22-27+6	147 (25.1)	84 (14.6)	80 (25.7)	73 (23.5)	14 (24.1)	3 (5.5)	20 (47.6)	0 (0.0)	8 (16.7)	7 (13.7)
28-31+6	234 (40.0)	206 (35.7)	173 (55.6)	176 (56.6)	17 (29.3)	8 (14.5)	3 (7.1)	0 (0.0)	13 (25.5)	11 (21.6)
32-36+6	148 (25.3)	131 (22.7)	43 (13.8)	45 (14.5)	19 (32.8)	24 (43.6)	16 (38.1)	8 (19.1)	16 (31.4)	18 (35.3)
37-42	56 (9.6)	156 (27.0)	15 (4.8)	17 (5.5)	8 (13.8)	20 (36.4)	3 (7.1)	34 (80.9)	14 (27.4)	15 (29.4)

417

418 WG: weeks of gestation

419 **Table 4.** Risk factors for antepartum SMM

	Women with antepartum SMM N = 601		Controls N = 3651		cOR	95% CI	aOR	95% CI
	n	%	n	%				
Age (years)								
< 35	426	70.9	2915	79.9	1		1	
35 – 39	130	21.6	599	16.4	1.49	[1.20-1.84]	1.55	[1.22-1.97]
≥ 40	45	7.5	137	3.7	2.25	[1.58-3.19]	2.01	[1.35-3.00]
BMI (mean, SD) (/5 kg/m ²)	25.6	6.2	23,9	5.0	1.29	[1.20-1.40]	1.24	[1.14-1.36]
Maternal place of birth								
France or other European country	369	70.3	2419	79.0	1		1	
North Africa	71	13.5	353	11.5	1.27	[0.96-1.68]	1.30	[0.97-1.73]
Sub-Saharan Africa	69	13.1	172	5.6	2.43	[1.81-3.26]	1.80	[1.29-2.53]
Other ^a	16	3.0	119	3.9	0.89	[0.51-1.57]	0.90	[0.49-1.62]
Living alone	41	7.5	135	4.0	1.88	[1.30-2.71]	1.34	[0.89-2.01]
Pre-existing medical condition ^b	127	21.7	274	7.5	3.31	[2.62-4.17]	2.56	[1.99-3.30]
Nulliparous	301	50.9	1517	41.8	1.49	[1.25-1.77]	2.26	[1.83-2.80]
Previous pregnancies ^c								
Prior pregnancy-related-hypertensive disorder	66	23.9 ^c	102	4.8 ^c	4.47	[3.23-6.17]	4.94	[3.36-7.26]
Prior caesarean	87	31.4 ^c	441	21.2 ^c	1.26	[0.99-1.63]	1.01	[0.73-1.38]
Prior postpartum haemorrhage	10	3.6 ^c	83	3.9 ^c	/	/	/	/
In vitro fertilization	30	5.1	76	2.1	2.51	[1.64-3.87]	1.34	[0.81-2.22]
Multiple pregnancy	47	8.0	59	1.6	5.20	[3.51-7.72]	5.79	[3.75-7.26]
Irregular prenatal follow-up	40	8.4	151	4.6	1.72	[1.22-2.44]	1.86	[1.27-2.72]

420 Univariate and multivariable logistic regression models with multiple imputation, including all
421 variables listed in the table except prior postpartum haemorrhage.

422 ^a : Asia (Japan, China, India, Southeast Asia) and North, Central, and South America

423 ^b : pre-existing medical condition were defined as a binary variable by the presence of at least
424 one of the following conditions: chronic hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidaemia, constitutional
425 bleeding disorders, asthma, allergy, psychiatric disorder, thromboembolic disease, stroke,
426 transient ischemic attack, coronary heart disease, severe trauma, heart disease, epilepsy,
427 hemoglobinopathy, hepatopathy, thyroid dysfunction, systemic lupus erythematosus,
428 autoimmune disease, inflammatory bowel disease, nephropathy, cancer, myasthenia gravis,
429 myopathy, multiple sclerosis, respiratory disease.

430 ^c : among parous pregnant women

431 cOR: crude odds ratio

432 aOR: adjusted odds ratio

433 95% CI: 95% confidence interval

434 BMI: body mass index