

Population rates of haemorrhage and transfusions among obstetric patients in NSW: A short communication.

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We estimated the population rates of obstetric haemorrhage and transfusion among women giving birth, utilising data collected in a review of the delivery admissions of 1200 randomly selected women in New South Wales in 2002. The estimated population obstetric haemorrhage rate was 13.1% (11.4% post-partum haemorrhage (PPH), 2.2% antepartum haemorrhage) and the transfusion rate was 1.06% (0.9% vaginal births, 1.6% of caesarean sections). When variations in definitions and denominators were accounted for, the difference in PPH rates among vaginal births (13.1%) and caesarean sections (6.3%) disappeared, suggesting PPH is under-ascertained for women delivered by caesarean section.