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| **ISA ISPID  Abstract Submission  Nº: 122**   |  | | --- | | Topics: **Stillbirth** | | Type: **Thematic Panel** | | **Exploring Novel Risk Factors for Stillbirth: Data from Cohort and Case-Control Studies** | | **Warland, Jane**1; **Heazell, Alexander**2; **O'Brien, Louise**3; **Coomarasamy, Christin**4; **Budd, Jayne**2; **Mitchell, Edwin**5 *1 - Mothers, Babies and Families: Health Research group: School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of South Australia. . 2 - Maternal and Fetal Health Research Centre, University of Manchester, UK. and St Mary’s Hospital, Manchester Academic Health Science Centre, UK.. 3 - Sleep Disorders Center and Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of Michigan, USA.. 4 - Health Intelligence & Informatics, Middlemore Hospital, New Zealand.. 5 - Department of Paediatrics, University of Auckland, New Zealand..* | | **Objectives of the session** To present the findings from recent studies of modifiable risk factors for stillbirth carried out in New Zealand, Australia and the USA. To present and discuss the findings of an internet-based study of 1,714 women (STARS study) to identify common experiences of women who experienced a late stillbirth. To highlight novel symptoms and experiences of parents who have a stillbirth, including changes in fetal movements, a gut instinct that something was wrong and time of death at night.  **Content of the session** This session will discuss the STARS study which was developed by a consortium during the Stillbirth Summit in October 2011, comprising clinicians, academics, researchers and bereaved parents from Australia, New Zealand, UK and the USA. We conducted an internet survey between August 2012 and August 2014. This was formed of two parts; the first was a cohort study to assess the frequency of established and novel risk factors in women who had experienced a stillbirth >3 weeks ago. The second part was a case-control study in which women who experienced a stillbirth (cases) within the previous 3 weeks and controls who were either still pregnant at the time of the study or recently delivered (less than 3 weeks ago). The study was approved by the IRB of the University of Michigan (HUM#00063655). We will present data from the cohort study of 1,714 women and the case-control study in which 153 cases and 480 controls participated. Most respondents were from the USA (71%), UK (14%), Australia (6%) or Canada (6%). Common experiences reported by women in the cohort study included changes in fetal movements (significantly less movement in 30.5% and significantly more fetal movements in 8.5% of cases), a perceived time of death at night (40.1% of cases), and a “gut instinct” that something was wrong (65.5% of cases). The case-control study is currently being explored to determine whether these experiences are associated with stillbirth. Data will be presented from both the cohort and case-control studies in 4 separate presentations including findings about on aspects of maternal sleep, and decreased and increased fetal movements as well as “gut instinct” that something was wrong.  **Method and extent of audience participation** The presentations will be given by members of the STARS consortium. We anticipate questions regarding the studies and their findings. We anticipate discussion regarding the novel findings of the studies and consideration for further research.  **Proposed content area and why it is important to participants** Stillbirth occurring after 28 weeks of pregnancy affects between 1.3-8.8 per 1,000 live births in high-income countries. In this setting 81% of stillbirths occur in women without classical risk-factors such as advanced maternal age, maternal medical conditions or obesity. Identification of novel risk factors, which could be open to modification or intervention during pregnancy, is an important area of stillbirth research which will be of interest to participants. In recent years, several case-control studies (from Auckland, Sydney and the USA) have identified risk factors associated with stillbirth. Common findings between these studies are needed to identify robust associations between risk-factors and stillbirths. In this thematic panel we will summarise the data from these studies and present new data from the STARS consortium with regard to the established association between reduced fetal movements and stillbirth. We will also highlight novel symptoms and experiences of parents who have a stillbirth, including increased fetal movements, a gut instinct that something was wrong and a time of death at night. The inter-relationship between risk factors merits further exploration e.g. reduced fetal movements and sleep. These studies add important information and we anticipate that participants will want to know more about these studies and the novel factors which merit further exploration and promote discussion about future studies. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **CONTACT** | | | Name: | **Jane** | | Lastname: | **Warland** | | E-mail: | **Jane.Warland@unisa.edu.au** | | Country: | **Australia** | | Institution | **Mothers, Babies and Families: Health Research group: School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of South Australia.** | | Cellphone: |  | | City: |  | |