

Produced by the  
QUIPP App Toolkit Group©



hin Health  
Innovation  
Network  
South London



NHS  
Guy's and St Thomas'  
NHS Foundation Trust

# USING THE QUIPP TOOLKIT

## FOR WOMEN IN THREATENED PRETERM LABOUR

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### QUIPP App Toolkit Group©

- Funded by Health Innovation Network South London 'Innovation Award 2019/2020' awarded to: Ms Naomi Carlisle, Dr Ellie Watson & Professor Andrew Shennan
- Version 1, 2/4/2020

# THE PROBLEM OF PRETERM BIRTH

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# WHAT IS PRETERM BIRTH?

**Preterm birth:** delivery before 37 completed weeks of pregnancy

- Spontaneous
- Iatrogenic

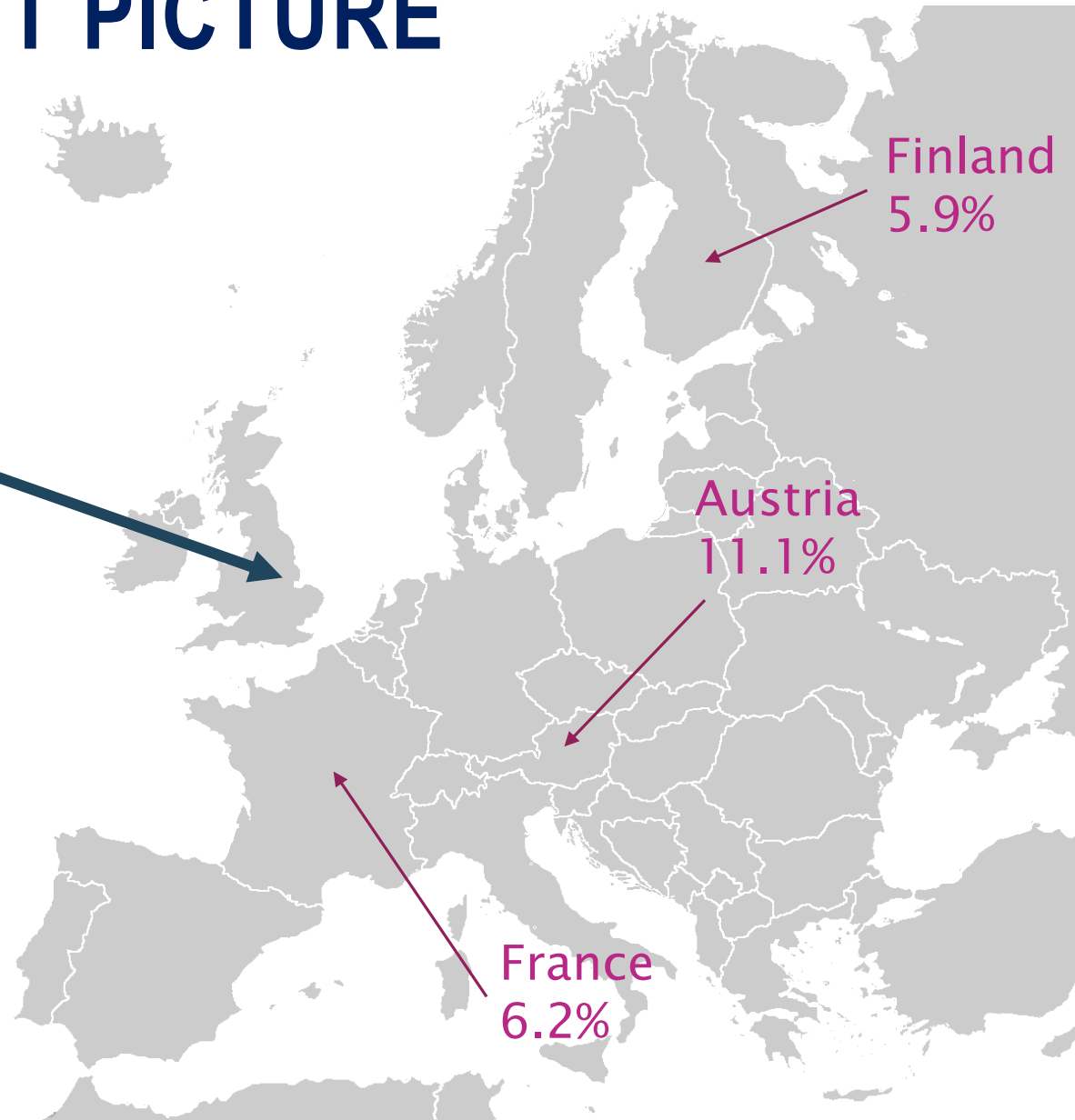
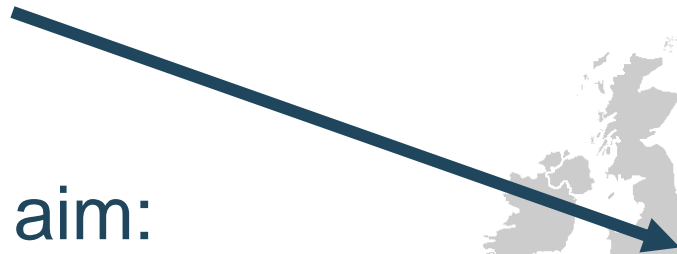
**Second trimester/'late' miscarriage:** delivery after 14 weeks' of pregnancy

**Similar mechanism** (Ugwumadu, 2010)

# THE CURRENT PICTURE

UK  
8%

2025 aim:  
6%



Finland  
5.9%

Austria  
11.1%

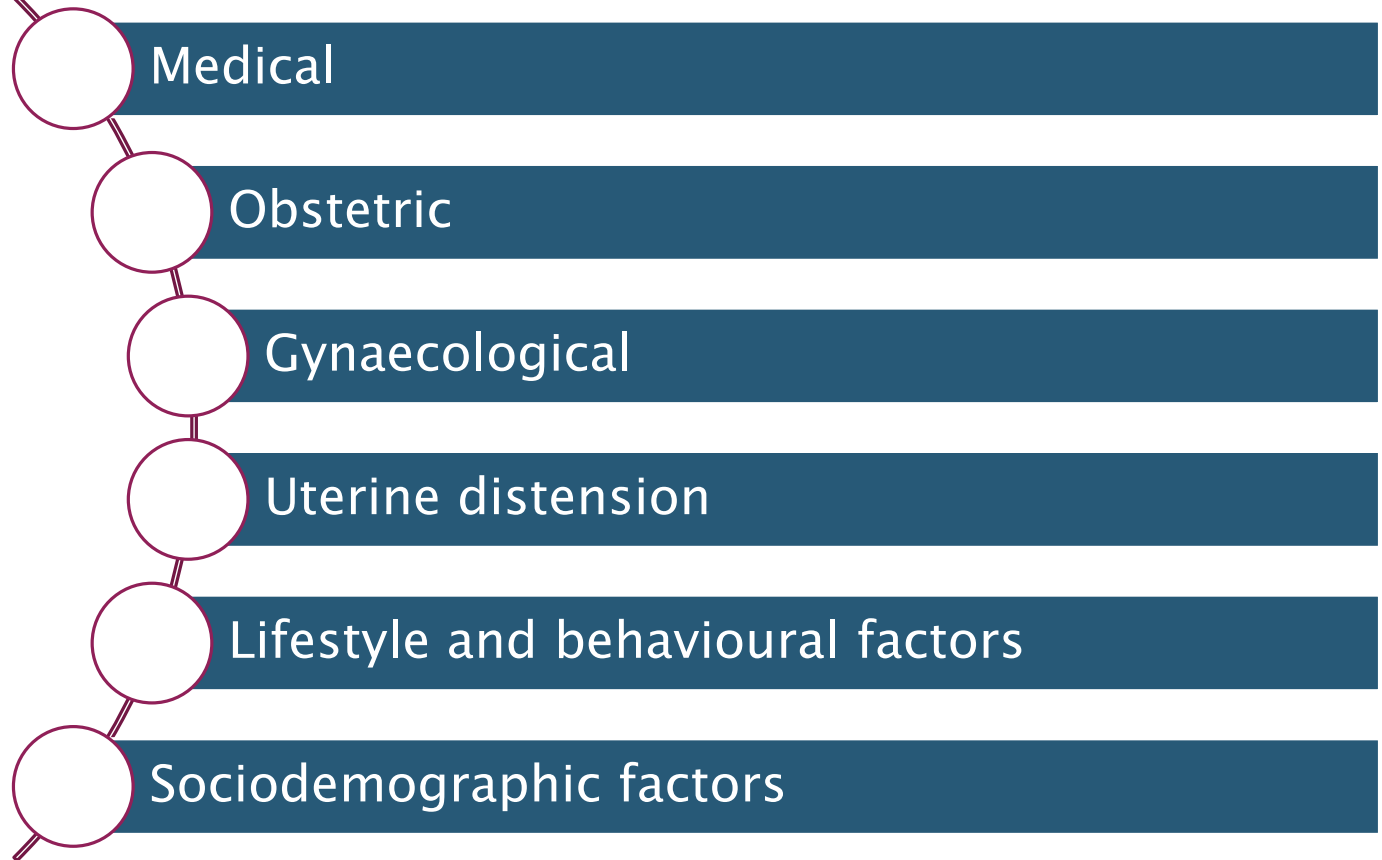
France  
6.2%

# DIAGNOSING PRETERM LABOUR

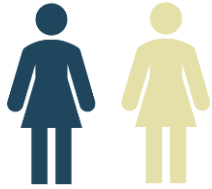
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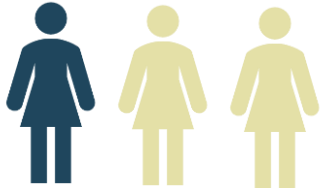
# KNOWN CAUSES AND RISK FACTORS



# MANY WOMEN HAVE NO RISK FACTORS



More than 50% of women who deliver preterm do **not** have identifiable risk factors<sup>1</sup>

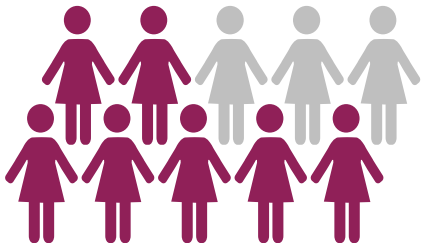


Approximately 2/3 of women with traditional risk factors do **not** go on to deliver preterm<sup>2,3</sup>

1. Iams JD, et al. The preterm prediction study: can low-risk women destined for spontaneous preterm birth be identified? *Am J Obstet Gynecol.* 2001;184(4):652-655.
2. Nageotte MP et al. Fetal fibronectin in patients at increased risk for premature birth. *Am J Obstet Gynecol.* 1994 Jan; 170(1 Pt 1): 20-5.
3. Phillips C, Velji Z, Hanly C, et al Risk of recurrent spontaneous preterm birth: a systematic review and meta-analysis *BMJ Open* 2017;7:e015402. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2016-015402

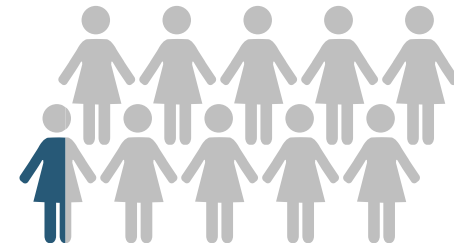
# THREATENED PRETERM LABOUR

Determining patients at greatest risk of preterm labour is a challenge:



**70%**

of women presenting with symptoms of threatened preterm labour give birth at term



**Less Than 4%**

of women with symptoms of preterm labour actually give birth within 7 days of presentation

1. Emily A. DeFranco, David F. Lewis, Anthony O. Odibo, 2013. Improving the screening accuracy for preterm labor: is the combination of fetal fibronectin and cervical length in symptomatic patients a useful predictor of preterm birth? A systematic review. American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, 208 (3), pp 233.e1-233.e6. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajog.2012.12.015>.



**WHY IS IT  
IMPORTANT?**

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# BENEFITS OF ACCURATELY DIAGNOSING THREATENED PRETERM LABOUR

- Appropriate women admitted
- Appropriate women sent home
- Appropriate women can be transferred in-utero
- Only appropriate women given steroids and other interventions

# PREDICTIVE TESTS FOR PRETERM LABOUR

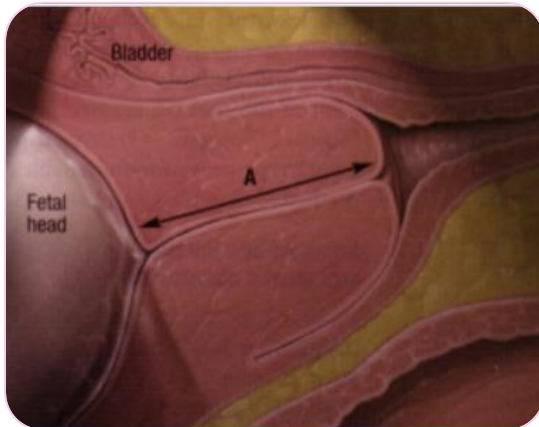
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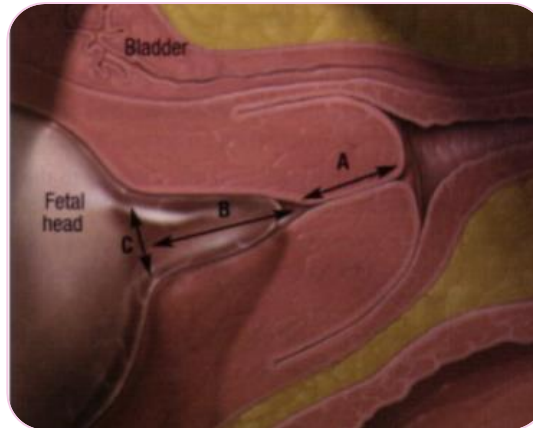
# TRANSVAGINAL ULTRASOUND CERVICAL LENGTH MEASUREMENT



- Shorter cervical length = greater risk woman will deliver preterm
- Cut off varies – often 25mm short



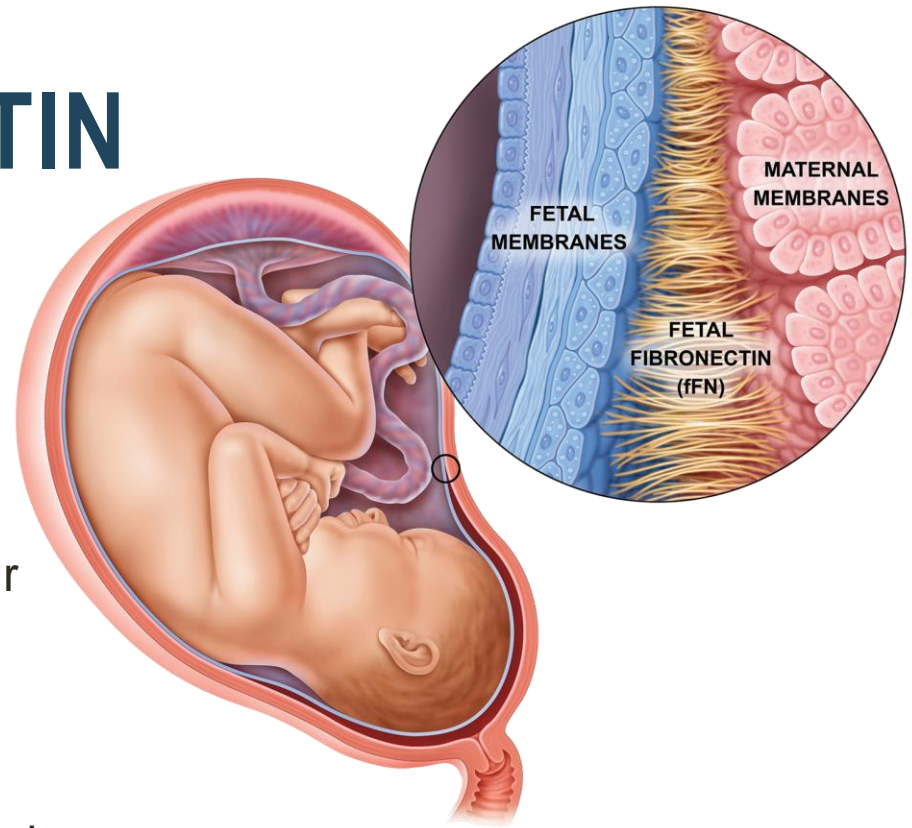
Normal Cervix



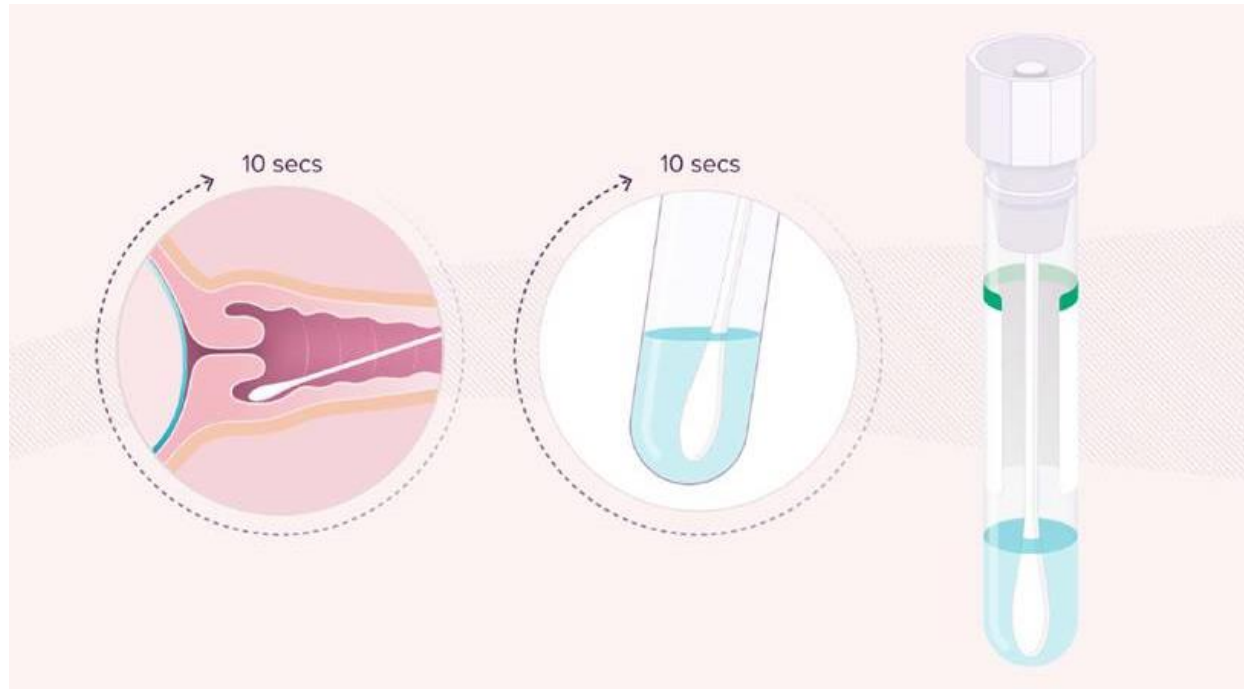
Short and Funneled  
Cervix

# FETAL FIBRONECTIN

- Adhesive glycoprotein “glue” at the maternal-fetal interface
- Absent from cervicovaginal secretions until typically near term at onset of labour
- Clinically validated test from 22 weeks until 36 weeks
- Only clinical biomarker test recommended by NICE
- Truly objective
- Can produce a result in around 10 minutes



# FETAL FIBRONECTIN SPECIMEN COLLECTION



**There is NO CHARGE for collection kits!**  
**Before digital exam/swabs/transvaginal scan**  
**Collect fFN specimen first!**

# FETAL FIBRONECTIN TEST RESULTS

Early versions of the 10Q Fetal Fibronectin analyser would give a qualitative result, under 50ng/mL = negative and over 50ng/mL = positive

More recent 10Q and PeriLynx Fetal Fibronectin analysers produce quantitative results of 0 to >500ng/mL

- The lower the result, less likely to deliver early
- Under 10ng/mL= very low
- Working with quantitative results allows us to discriminate better (a woman with a risk of 400ng/mL has a lot higher chance of delivery compared to a woman with 51ng/mL – before they would both have been called ‘positive’)

# THE QUIPP APP

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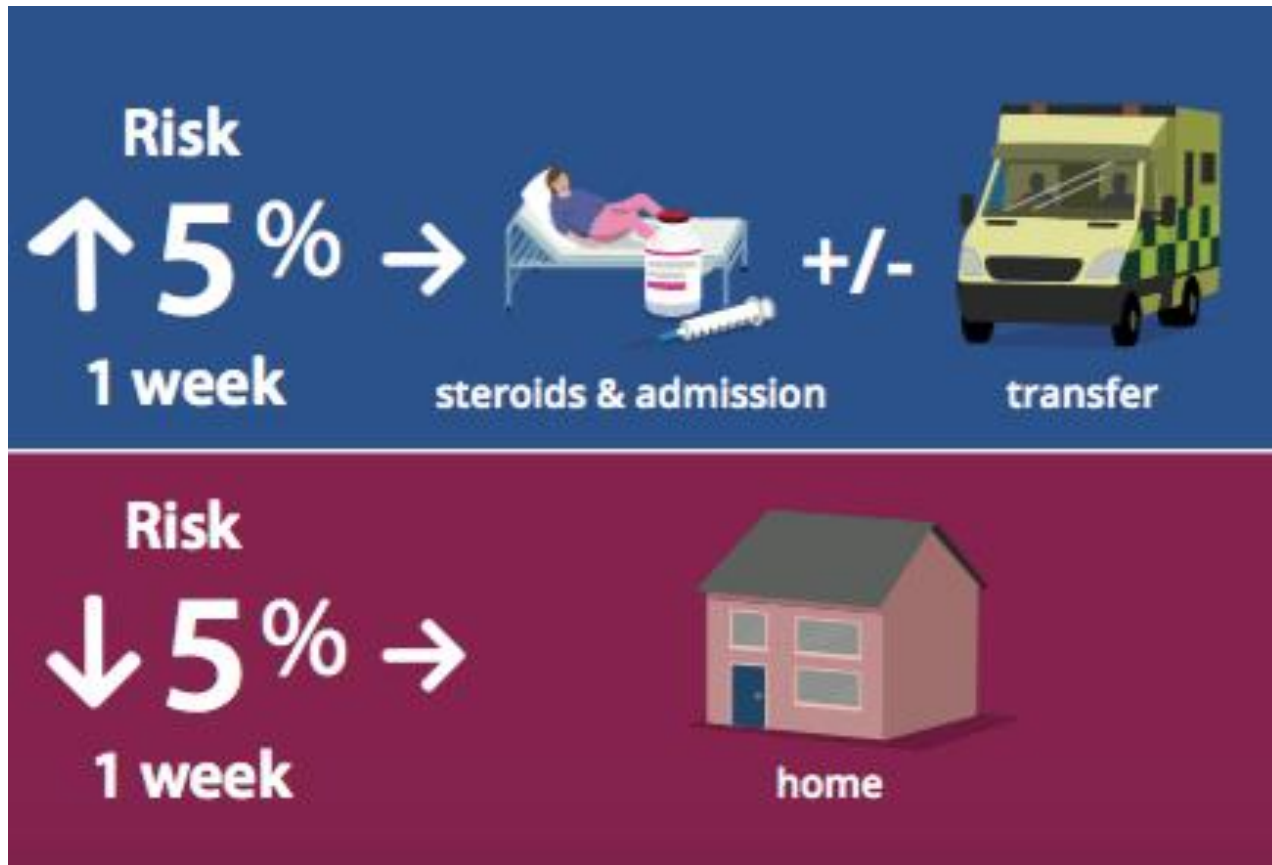


# THE QUIPP APP



- Free to download on Apple and Android—search ‘QUIPP’
- Website version available at: [www.quipp.org](http://www.quipp.org)
- Gives individualised scores for risk of having a spontaneous preterm delivery
- Uses medical history, her quantitative Fetal Fibronectin result and/or cervical length
- Decision-support tool

# MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE



EE 10:43 79%

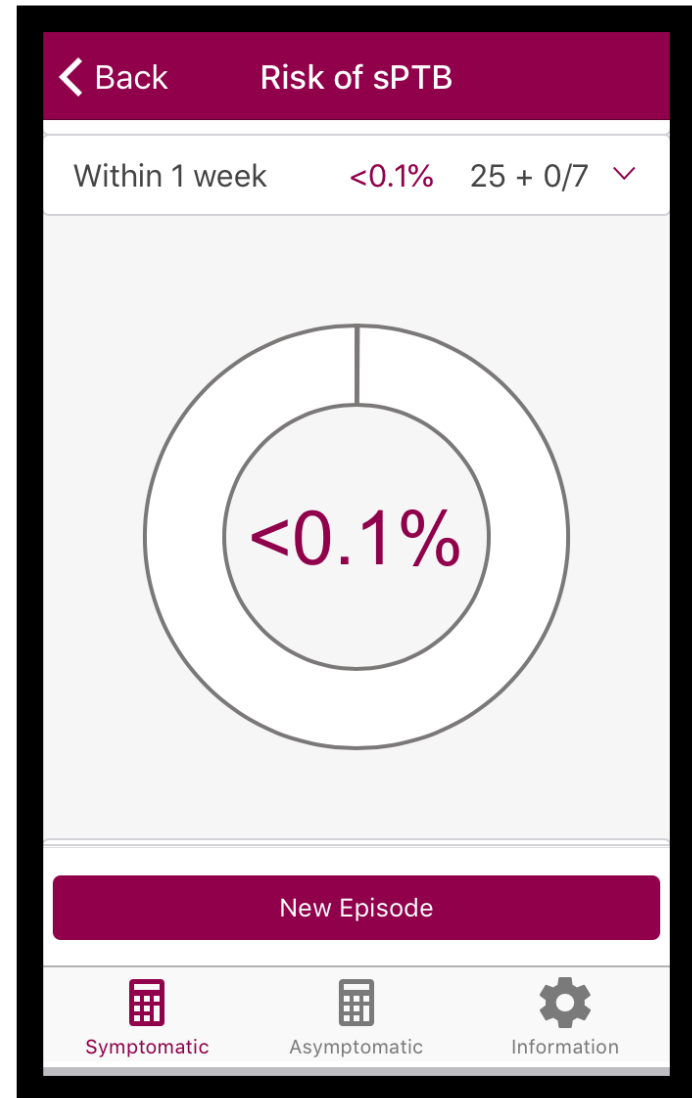
## Symptomatic

- SYMPTOMS SUGGESTIVE OF ABNORMAL OR PREMATURE UTERINE ACTIVITY?  
 Yes  No
- PREVIOUS CERVICAL SURGERY?  
 Yes  No
- PREVIOUS PRETERM BIRTH  $\leq 36^{+6}$ ?  
 Yes  No
- PREVIOUS PPROM?  
 Yes  No
- NUMBER OF FETUSES  
Please select 1 ▾
- GESTATION OF TEST  
Weeks 18 ▾ Days 0 ▾
- SHORTEST CERVICAL LENGTH (MM)
- fFN RESULT (NG/ML)

Symptomatic Asymptomatic Information

# EXAMPLE 1: THERESA

- G1P0, 24<sup>+0</sup>, singleton
- Smoker
- Abdo pain, anxiety
- Sexual intercourse in last 48 hours
- qfFN 51



## EXAMPLE 2: ANGELA

- Previous cervical laser treatment
- Cerclage for CL 22mm at 18 weeks
- 26<sup>+2</sup> tightenings
- Urine- NAD
- qfFN 70




**← Back Risk of sPTB**

- Risk calculated without cervical length

**Probability of spontaneous delivery**

Before 30 weeks	6.1%	>
Before 34 weeks	18.7%	>
Before 37 weeks	31.5%	>
Within 1 week	1.1%	27 + 2/7 >
Within 2 weeks	2.6%	28 + 2/7 >
Within 4 weeks	6.8%	30 + 2/7 >

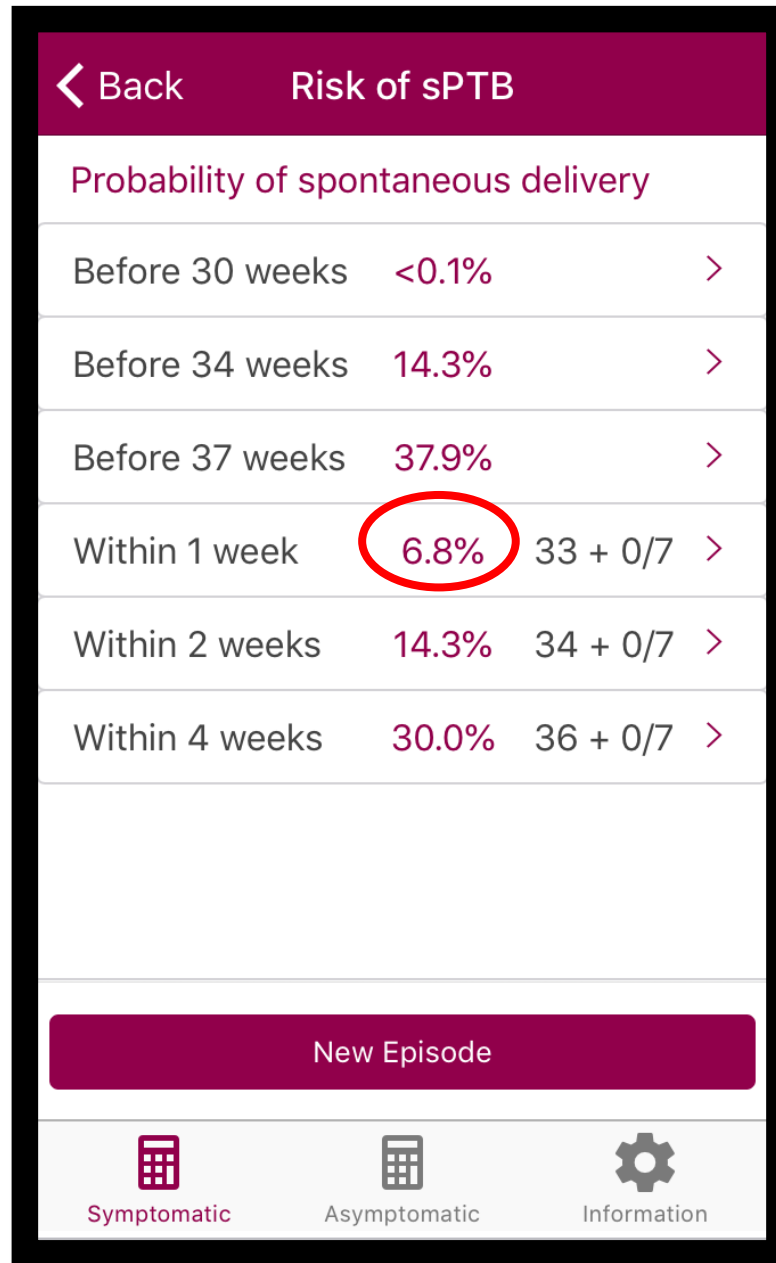
**New Episode**

 Symptomatic     Asymptomatic     Information

# EXAMPLE 3: JACINDA

- DCDA twins
- 32+0
- CL 20mm
- qfFN 30





# EVIDENCE FOR THE QUIPP APP

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# A VALIDATED TOOL

**ULTRASOUND**  
in Obstetrics & Gynecology



Original Paper | [Free Access](#)

Development and validation of a tool incorporating cervical length and quantitative fetal fibronectin to predict spontaneous preterm birth in asymptomatic high-risk women

K. Kuhrt, E. Smout, N. Hezelgrave, P. T. Seed, J. Carter, A. H. Shennan



*Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2020; 55: 357–367  
Published online in Wiley Online Library (wileyonlinelibrary.com). DOI: 10.1002/uog.20422



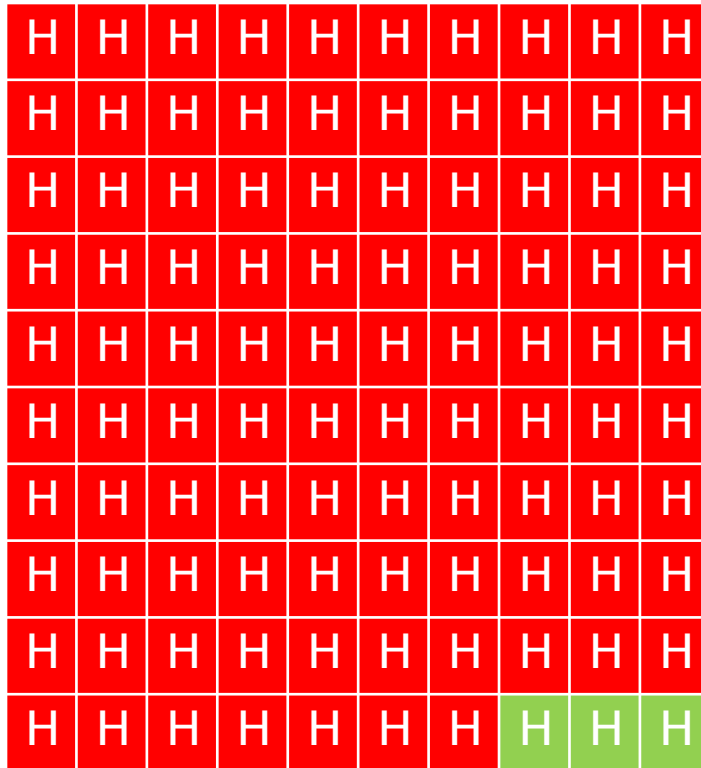
## Development and validation of predictive models for QUIPP App v.2: tool for predicting preterm birth in women with symptoms of threatened preterm labor

J. CARTER<sup>1</sup>, P. T. SEED<sup>1</sup>, H. A. WATSON<sup>1</sup>, A. L. DAVID<sup>2,3</sup>, J. SANDALL<sup>1</sup>, A. H. SHENNAN<sup>1</sup> and R. M. TRIBE<sup>1</sup>#

<sup>1</sup>Department of Women and Children's Health, School of Life Course Sciences, King's College London, London, UK; <sup>2</sup>Institute for Women's Health, University College London, London, UK; <sup>3</sup>National Institute for Health Research, University College London Hospitals, Biomedical Research Centre, London, UK





# 89% of hospital admissions avoided, and associated risks and costs

NICE 'TREAT ALL' POLICY



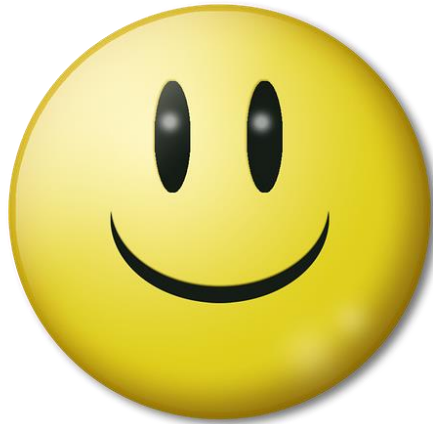
QUIPP TREAT ONLY > 5% RISK POLICY



 sent home appropriately       hospitalised inappropriately  
 sent home inappropriately       hospitalised appropriately

# AUDIT YOUR OWN HOSPITAL USE

Using the audit proforma included in the QIiPP Toolkit!



# ANY QUESTIONS?

# EMAIL US AT QUIPPAPP@GMAIL.COM

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