

Second trimester dilatation and evacuation (D&E) with one or more previous Caesarean sections: a retrospective cohort study.



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Introduction

- There are more than 200 000 abortions performed in England and Wales per year.
- More than 70% of them take place in the independent sector¹.
- Every independent sector provider has criteria for high-risk patients who they refer for **NHS-based care**.
- Homerton is one of the small number of NHS hospitals providing **abortion care** for women with **comorbidities** and other **complexities**.

Objective

- We reviewed **complications during second trimester D&E** in patients with a history of one or more Lower Segment Caesarean Section (**LSCS**), with or without low lying placenta or placenta praevia.

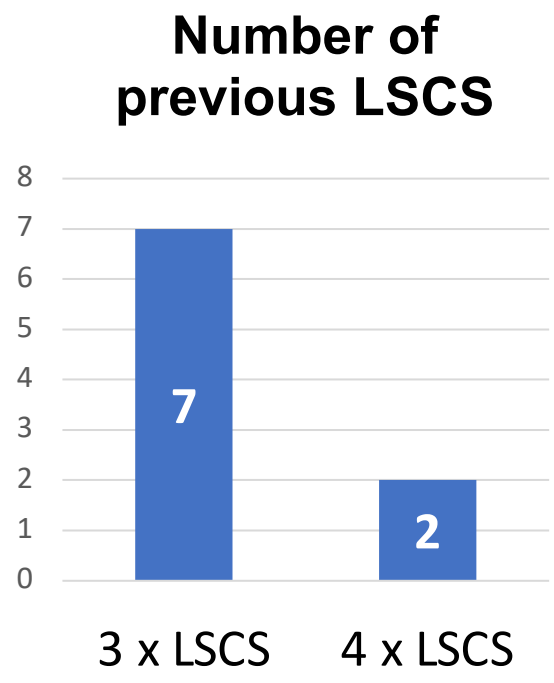
Methods

- Retrospective cohort study.
- Inclusion criteria: **all second trimester D&E cases** - 14w0d to 23w6d, with **history of one or more LSCS** performed in **Homerton Hospital**.
- Study period: **January 1st, 2021 - August 31st, 2023**.
- Information gathered on referral source, referral reason, placenta location and whether there were any immediate surgical complications.

Results

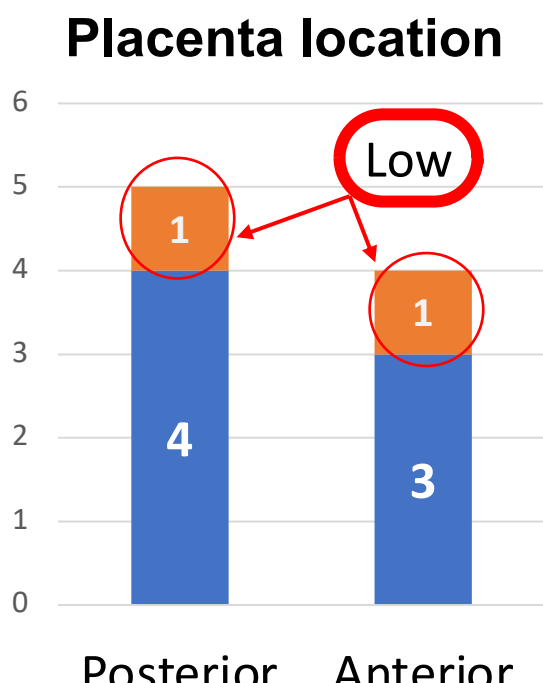
- 127 D&E cases with one or more previous LSCS.**
 - 28** referred due to concerns in relation to their history of LSCS.
 - 9 referred due to history of 3 or more LSCS
 - 19 referred due to history of 1 or more LSCS with low lying placenta/praevia

Number of previous LSCS



Number of previous LSCS	Count
3 x LSCS	7
4 x LSCS	2

Placenta location

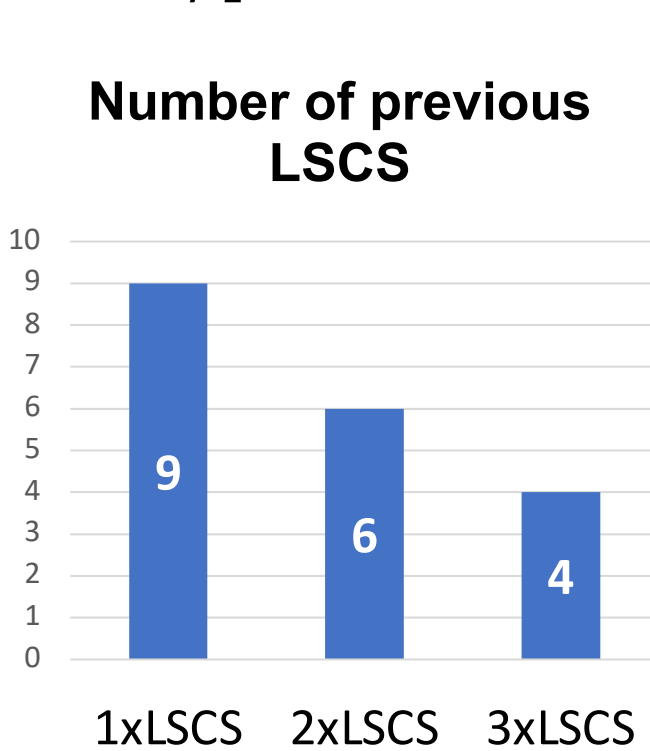


Placenta location	Count
Posterior	4
Anterior	3

Complications

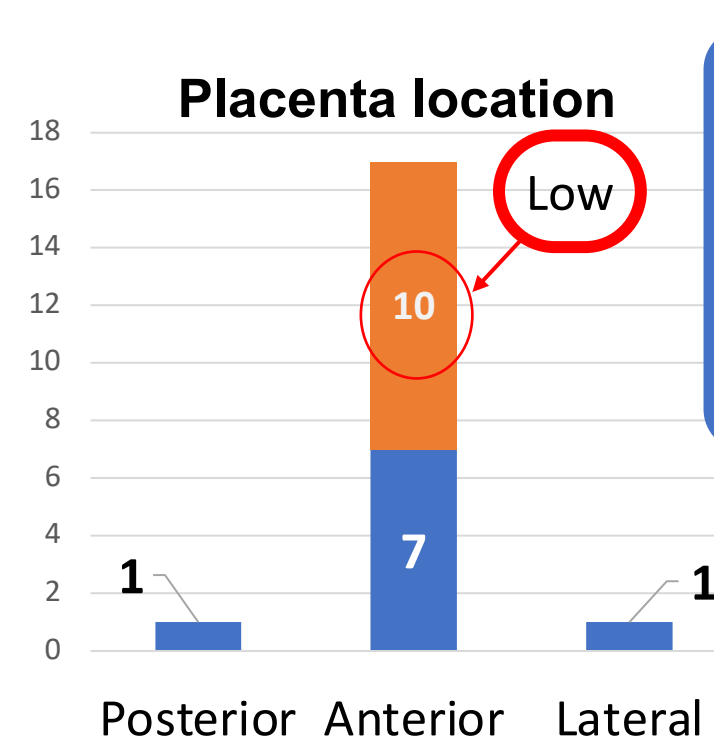
3 bleeding- 33%
1 **hysterectomy*** (histology - placenta accreta)

Number of previous LSCS



Number of previous LSCS	Count
1xLSCS	9
2xLSCS	6
3xLSCS	4

Placenta location



Placenta location	Count
Posterior	1
Anterior	10
Lateral	1

Complications

5 bleeding- 26%
1 **hysterectomy*** (histology - placenta accreta)

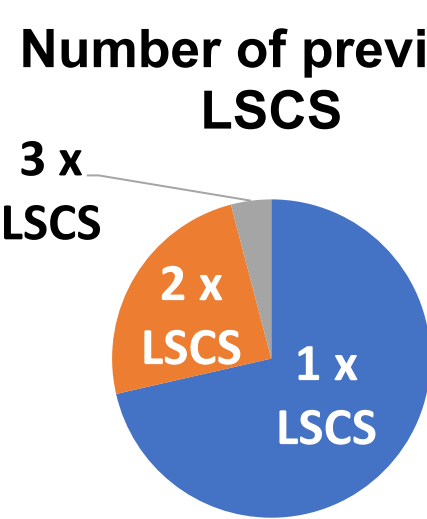
12 were found to have low lying placenta/praevia.

4 were suspicious for adherent placenta.

- 1 confirmed accreta (**hysterectomy***)
- 1 balloon tamponade
- 2 uneventful D&E

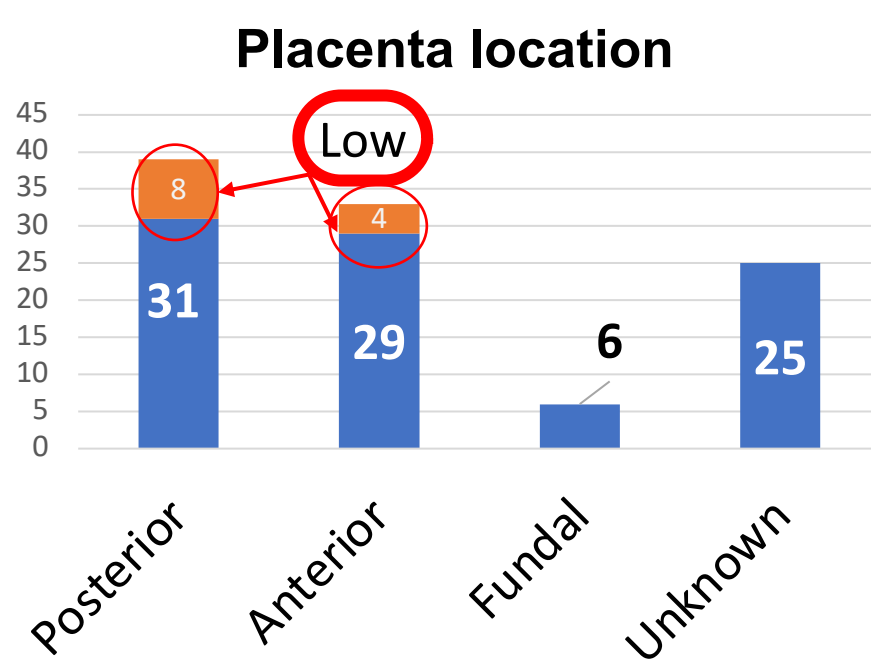
- 99** referred for other reasons - comorbidities.

Number of previous LSCS



Number of previous LSCS	Count
3 x LSCS	2
2 x LSCS	1
1 x LSCS	2

Placenta location



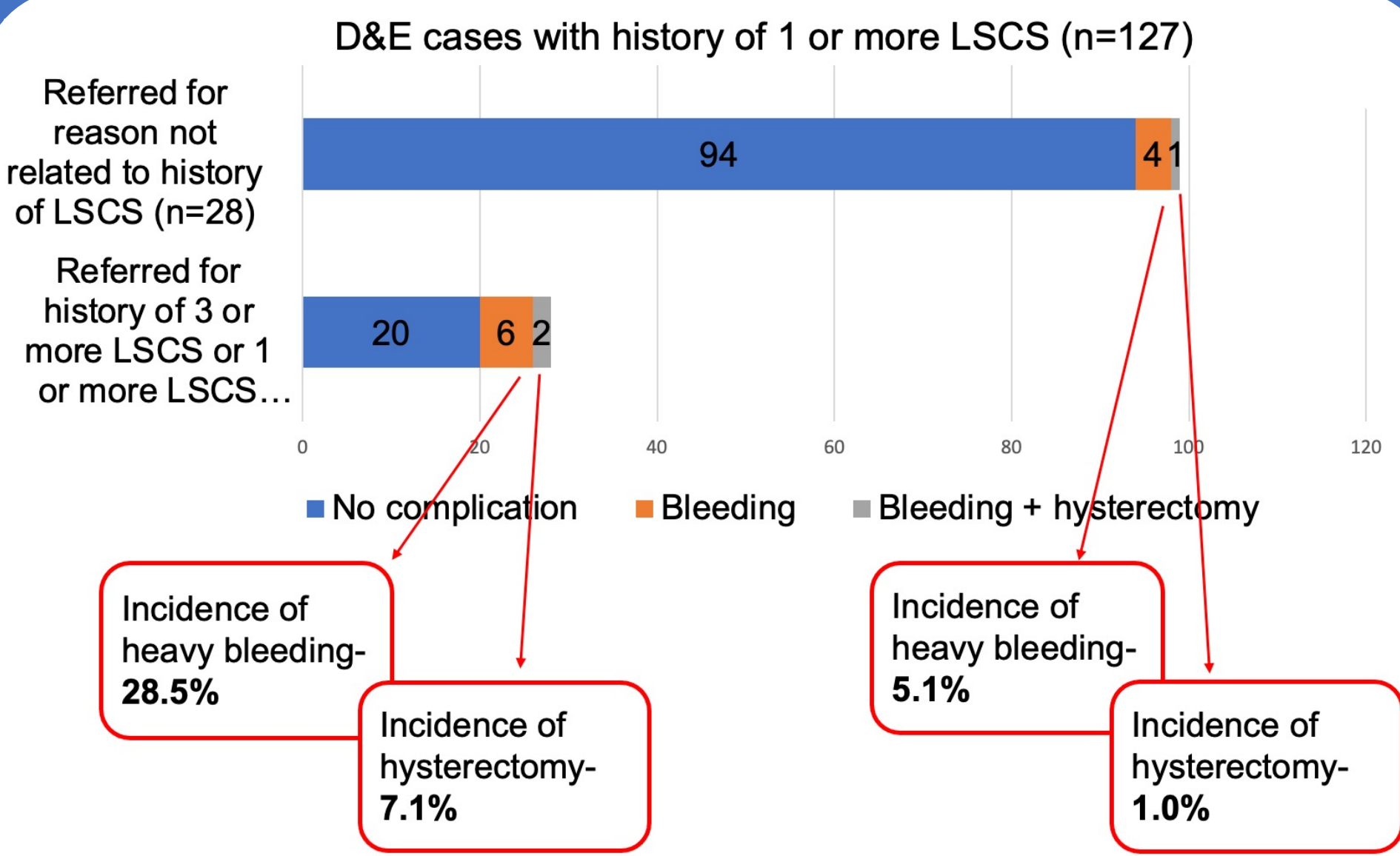
Placenta location	Count
Posterior	31
Anterior	29
Fundal	6
Unknown	25

Complications

5 bleeding- 5%
1 **hysterectomy*** (histology - placenta accreta)

Complications

D&E cases with history of 1 or more LSCS (n=127)



Referral Reason	No complication	Bleeding	Bleeding + hysterectomy
Referred for reason not related to history of LSCS (n=28)	94	41	2
Referred for history of 3 or more LSCS or 1 or more LSCS with low lying placenta/praevia	20	6	2

Incidence of heavy bleeding- 28.5%

Incidence of hysterectomy- 7.1%

Incidence of heavy bleeding- 5.1%

Incidence of hysterectomy- 1.0%

Conclusion

- Patients with a history of three or more LSCS and one or more LSCS with low lying placenta/placenta praevia have high incidence of bleeding complications and hysterectomy during second trimester D&E.

Acknowledgments

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