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## Creating cohorts and developing and validating code lists in HES data

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## Outline

- A very brief introduction to HES data
- Developing and validating code lists in HES
- Developing and validating cohorts in HES







International Journal of Epidemiology, 2017, 1–10 doi: 10.1093/ije/dyx015 Data Resource Profile



Data Resource Profile

### Data Resource Profile: Hospital Episode Statistics Admitted Patient Care (HES APC)

Annie Herbert,<sup>1,2</sup> Linda Wijlaars,<sup>1</sup> Ania Zylbersztejn,<sup>1,3</sup> David Cromwell<sup>4,5</sup> and Pia Hardelid<sup>1,6</sup>\*

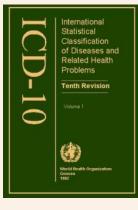
## What is HES?



- HES is the national hospital database for England
- Data on all patient encounters with NHS Hospitals in England and all secondary care paid for by NHS
- HES Admitted Patient Care dataset contains data on all inpatient and daycase admissions (including delivery & births)
- HES data are collected for purposes of reimbursing hospitals for the care they provide, not for research purposes
- NHS Digital link patient episodes together (using NHS number, DoB, hospital number, sex & postcode) to create individual identifier – the HESID

### Coding in HES Admitted Patient Care Data

### Diagnoses



### **Healthcare Resource Groups**

#### National Casemix Office



The National Casemix Office (NCO) designs and refines classifications used to describe NHS healthcare activity in England. These classifications underpin the national reimbursement system from costing through to payment, and support local commissioning and performance management.

## Procedures & operations



OPCS Classification of Interventions and Procedures Version 4.6 (April 2011) Volume I - Tabular List

## Codes entered by clinical coders based on patient notes, discharge summaries etc

## Approaches for validating code lists

### External validation:

- ▷ Linkage to disease registry
- Comparisons with published data (eg from vital statistics, audits, surveillance)

- Internal validation (examples of)
  - Compare procedures & diagnoses
  - Compare episode/admission types and diagnoses/procedures
  - ▷ Variation in coding over time/by season

### Prevalence of chronic conditions in children who die

## 

#### Child Health Reviews - UK

**Clinical Outcome Review Programme** 

#### Overview of child deaths in the four UK countries

Report September 2013





https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/system/files /protected/page/CHR-UK%20MODULE%20B%20REVISED%2 0v2%2015112013.pdf



**RCP**<sup>®</sup>H oval College of Paediatrics and Child Health

### Data linkage approach



#### Hospital records

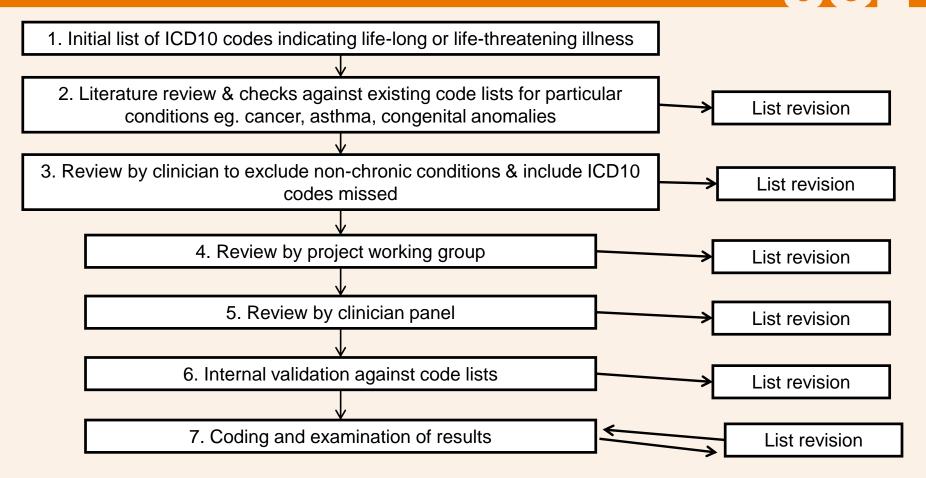


#### **Death certificates**

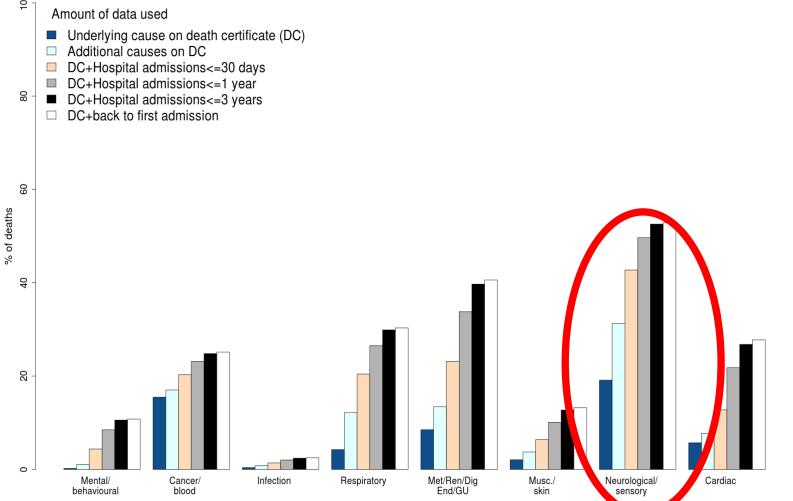


Linkage

## Developing a code list for chronic conditions in children







## Developing and validating cohorts in HES

• Can a suitable inception point be found in HES?







### Comparison of child mortality by characteristics at birth in England and in Sweden using linked administrative data

Ania Zylbersztejn, Ruth Gilbert, Anders Hjern, Linda Wijlaars, Pia Hardelid

Lancet, in press

## How to identify birth episodes?

#### HES Specific Fields

- Episode type
- Patient Classification
- Admission method
- Neonatal Care

#### Healthcare Resource Group (HRG) Code

= groupings of clinically similar treatments which use common levels of healthcare resource

#### Diagnoses & Operation Codes

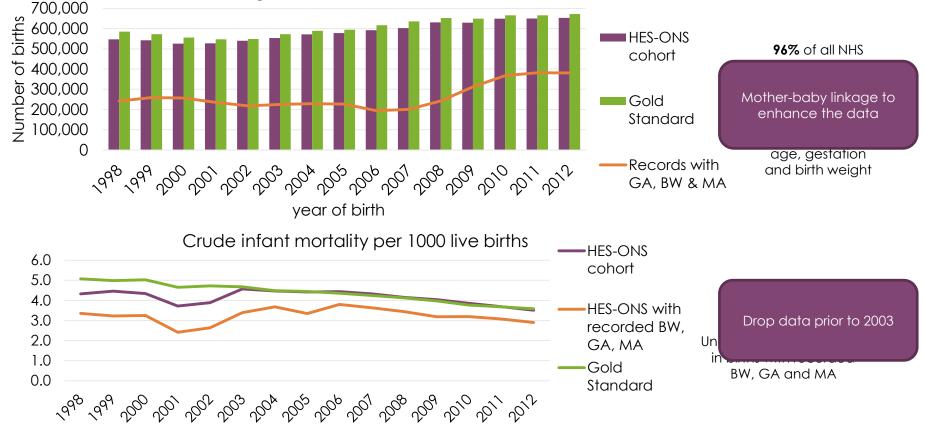
Diagnoses:

- Births: Z38\*, Z37\*
- Deliveries: 060-075, 080-092, 094-099 Procedures:
- R14-R27



### HES-ONS birth cohort

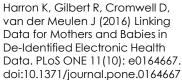
Singleton live births in HES-ONS



### HES-ONS birth cohort: with mother-baby linkage

700,000 HES-ONS 600,000 cohort su 500,000 400,000 5 300,000 Gold records with Standard maternal age, gestation and Using only birth weight ≥ 200,000 baby record 100,000 After mother-0 baby linkage 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 Crude infant mortality per 1000 live births -HES-ONS 5.0 cohort 4.0 Exclude trusts with data quality issues 3.0 After motherbaby linkage 2.0

Singleton live births in HES-ONS



Gold

Standard

75% of

2009 2010 2003 2005 2006 2007 2008 2011 2012 2004

1.0

0.0

### HES-ONS birth cohort: subgroup of trusts

- Selected trusts: covered 71% of all births
- 92% of which had SES, gestational age, maternal age, birthweight & gender

	England – subgroup of trusts		
	Gold Standard	All data	Complete Case
0-1 days	1.61	1.58	0.83
2-6 days	0.54	0.59	0.49
7-27 days	0.64	0.70	0.61
28-364 days	1.33	1.39	1.28
1-4 years	NA	0.59	0.57
	Exclude deaths on day 0-1 from sto		

International differences in registration practices (stillbirth vs livebirth)

Gold Standard: ONS publications based on birth and death registration data



- Development and validation of code lists for identifying conditions and operations in HES requires planning
- Work with clinicians
- Importance of validation (of code lists and cohorts): both internal and external validation are usually possible





### Acknowledgements

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## **NHS** National Institute for Health Research