

R023: Type 1 diabetes diagnosed in Northern Ireland children – risk factors, complications and mortality – QUB

Since 1989 the Northern Ireland Childhood Diabetes Register (NICDR) has recorded new cases of Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (T1DM) in children under 15 years old. This project will link these cases to their records in child and maternal health datasets in order to identify risk factors for this disease.

It has been suggested that both maternal and childhood obesity may increase the risk of type 1 diabetes. While the evidence for childhood obesity is reasonably consistent, the evidence for maternal obesity is conflicted.

Linking records using Child Health records (pre-1987 births) has previously been successful in providing useful information on risk factors occurring in and around the time of birth.(since then the Child Health System (CHS) has started recording child growth.)

The Northern Ireland Maternity System (NIMATS) includes maternal height and weight at pregnancy booking which has not previously been linked to type 1 diabetes cases in Northern Ireland. We propose to use these datasets to explore maternal and childhood obesity and other obstetric and perinatal (occurring in and around the time of birth) risk factors for type 1 diabetes.