CORRECTIONS

Rates of caesarean vary widely across Europe

This Research News story (*BMJ* 2015;350:h1332, doi:10.1136/bmj.h1332) states that the World Health Organization advises “there is no justification for any region to have a caesarean rate higher than 10-15%.” However, this recommendation was made in 1985, and WHO’s latest guidance on caesarean rates was published in April 2015¹. In this latest statement, WHO does not recommend a specific caesarean section rate at a country level. The statement cites research showing that when caesarean section rates rise towards 10% across a population, the number

of maternal and newborn deaths decreases; yet when the rate goes above 10%, there is no evidence that mortality rates improve.

- 1 World Health Organization. WHO Statement on Caesarean Section Rates. 2015. http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/maternal_perinatal_health/cs-statement/en/

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