Melissa K Whitworth

Consultant Obstetrician, St Mary's Hospital, Manchester

Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and educated nation with a National Health Service - continue to have high intervention rates. What can be done to reduce these?

Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and educated nation with a National Health Service - continue to have high intervention rates.

- Developed country is used to describe countries that have a high level of development according to specified criteria
- Which criteria should be used is a contentious issue and is surrounded by fierce debate.

Very high human development

Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and educated nation with a National Health Service - continue to have high intervention rates. What can be done to reduce these?

Literacy in the UK

- One in six people in the UK struggle with literacy. This means their literacy is below the level expected of an eleven year old.

National Literacy Trust

Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and **educated** nation with a National Health Service - continue to have high intervention rates. What can be done to reduce these?

‘I watched as Laura closed her eyes and let the wind whip through her hair. She always seemed so confident and sure. I hoped to be like her someday. ‘

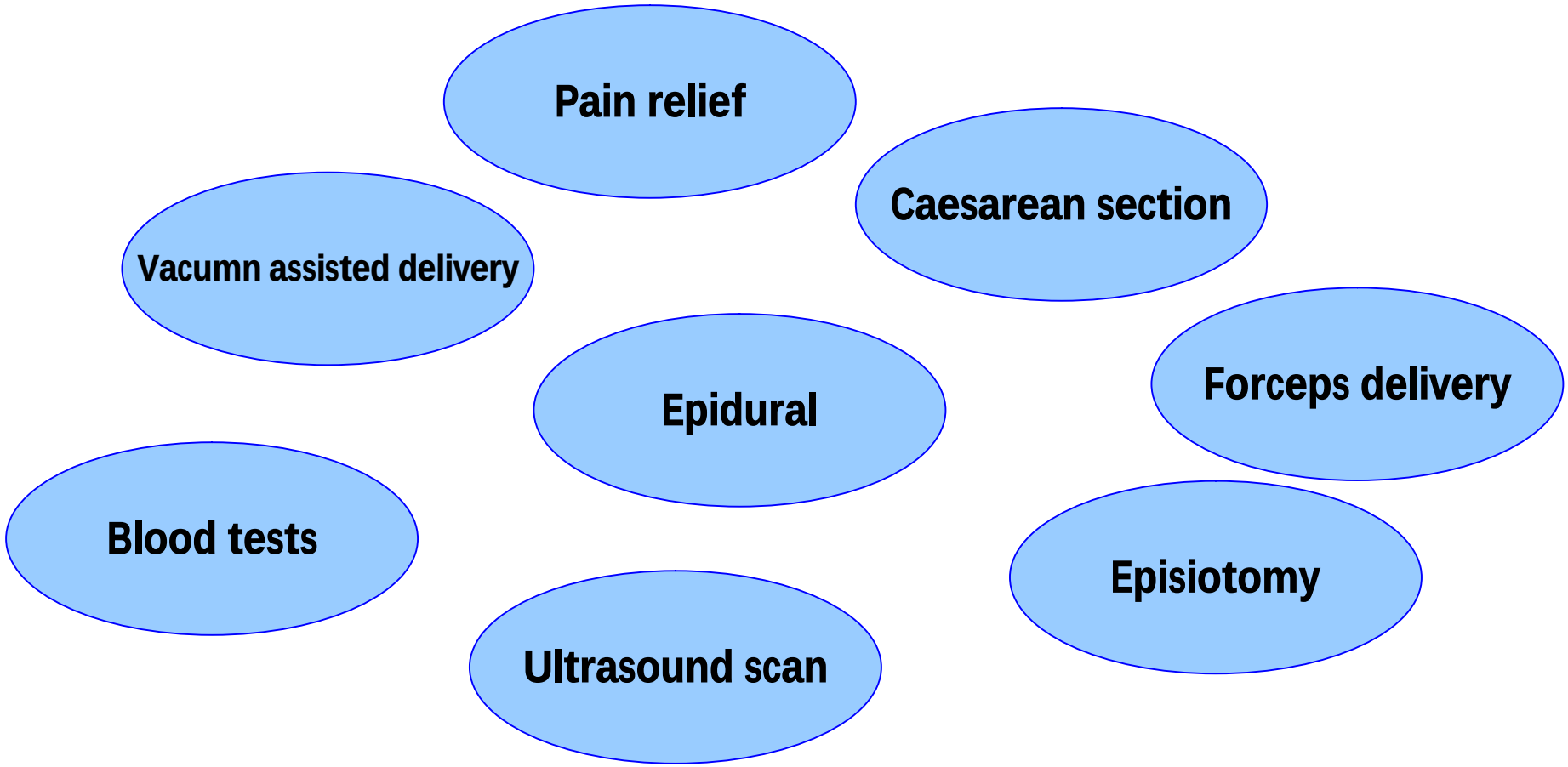
Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and educated nation with a National Health Service - continue to have high intervention rates. What can be done to reduce these?

Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and educated nation with a National Health Service - continue to have high intervention rates.

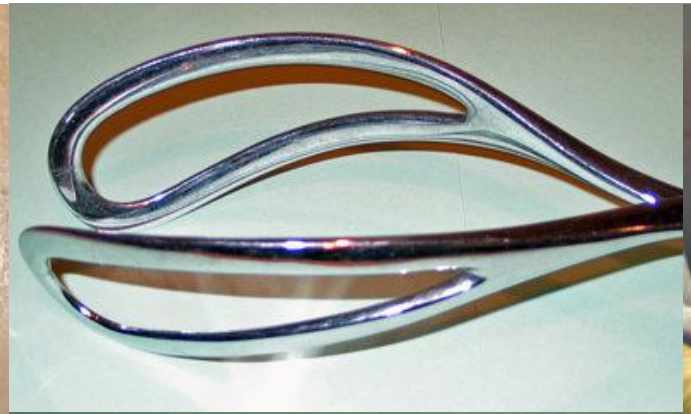
Intervene

To take a decisive or intrusive role in order to modify or determine events or their outcome

Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and educated nation with a National Health Service - continue to have high intervention rates.

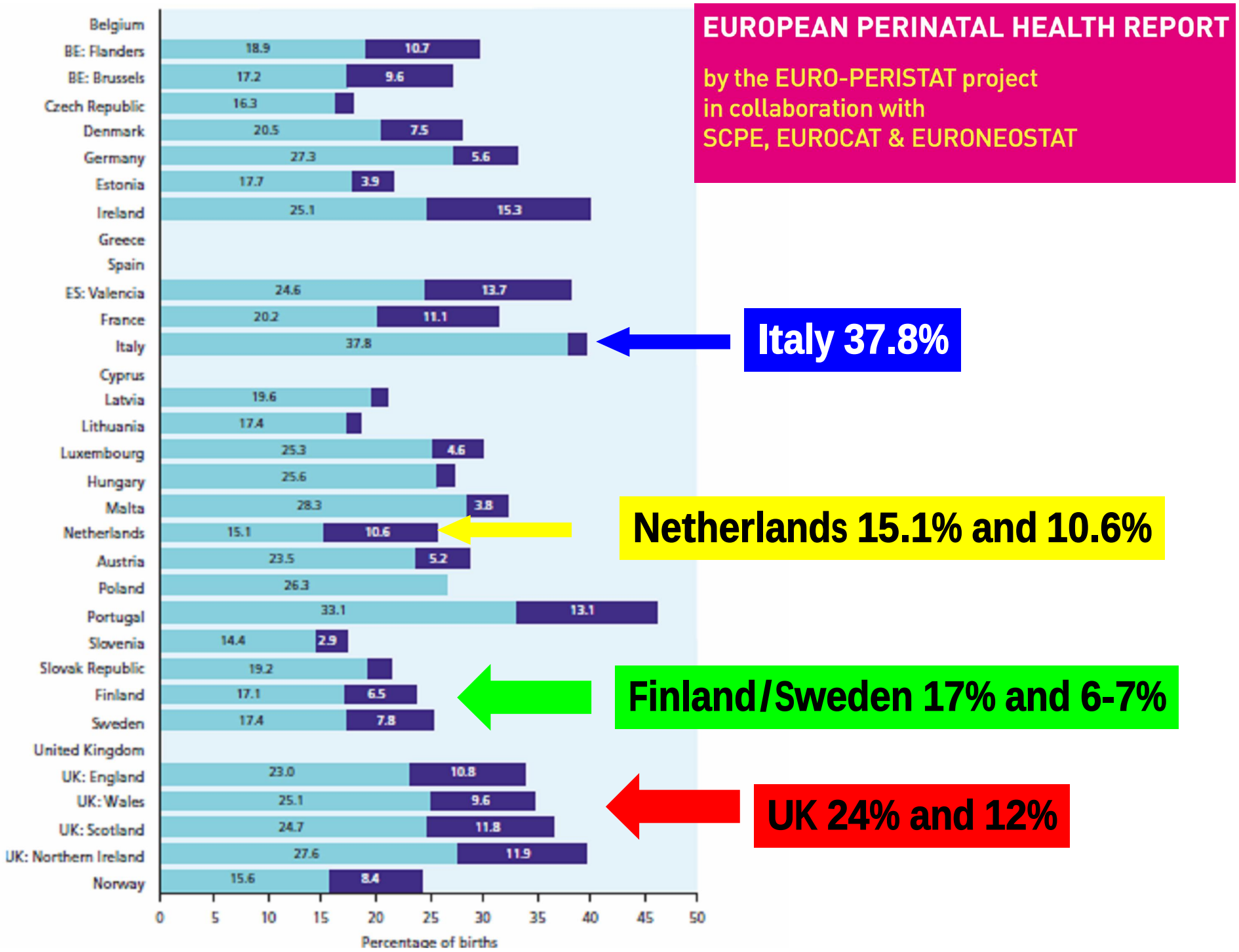


Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and educated nation with a National Health Service - continue to have high intervention rates.

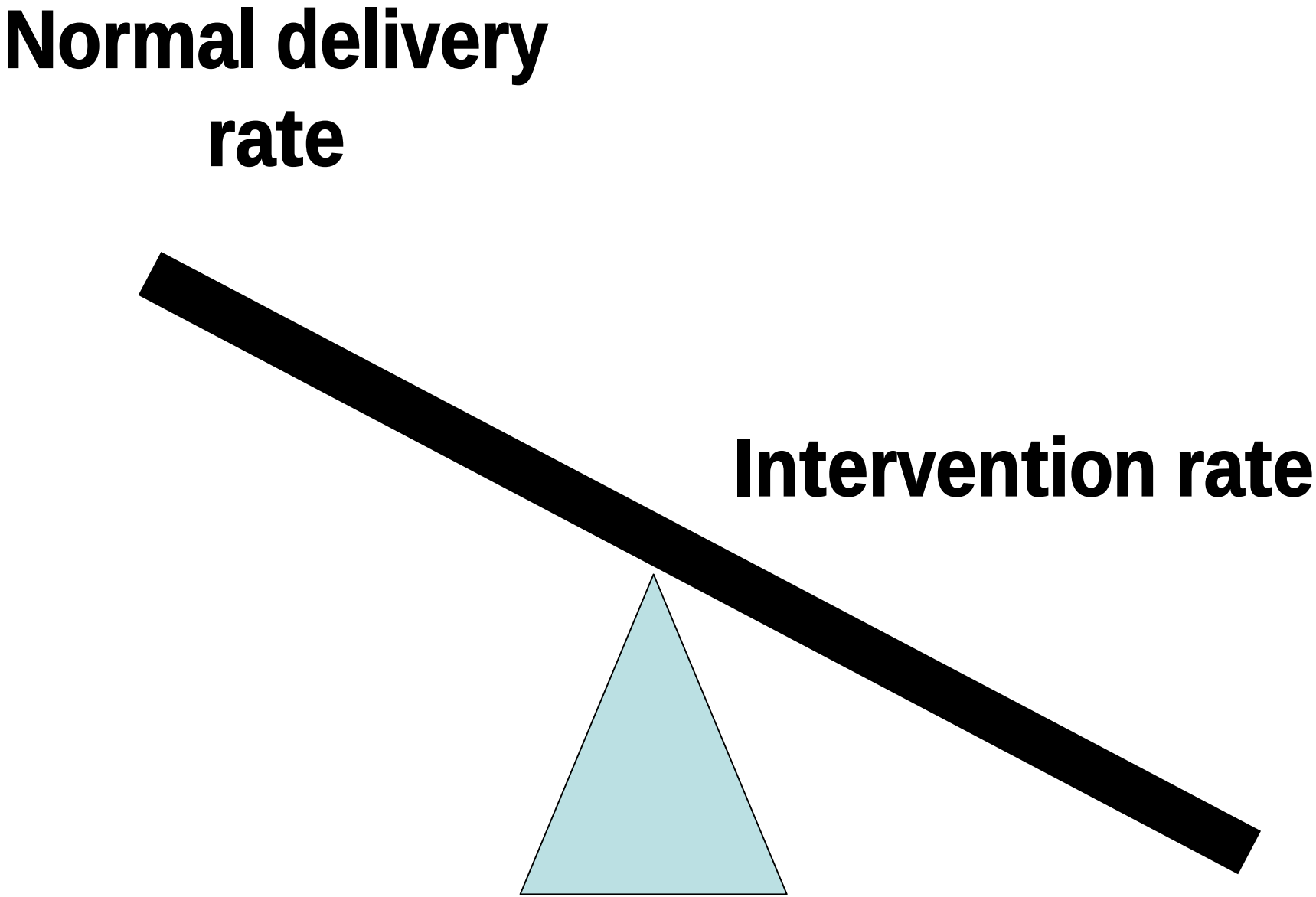


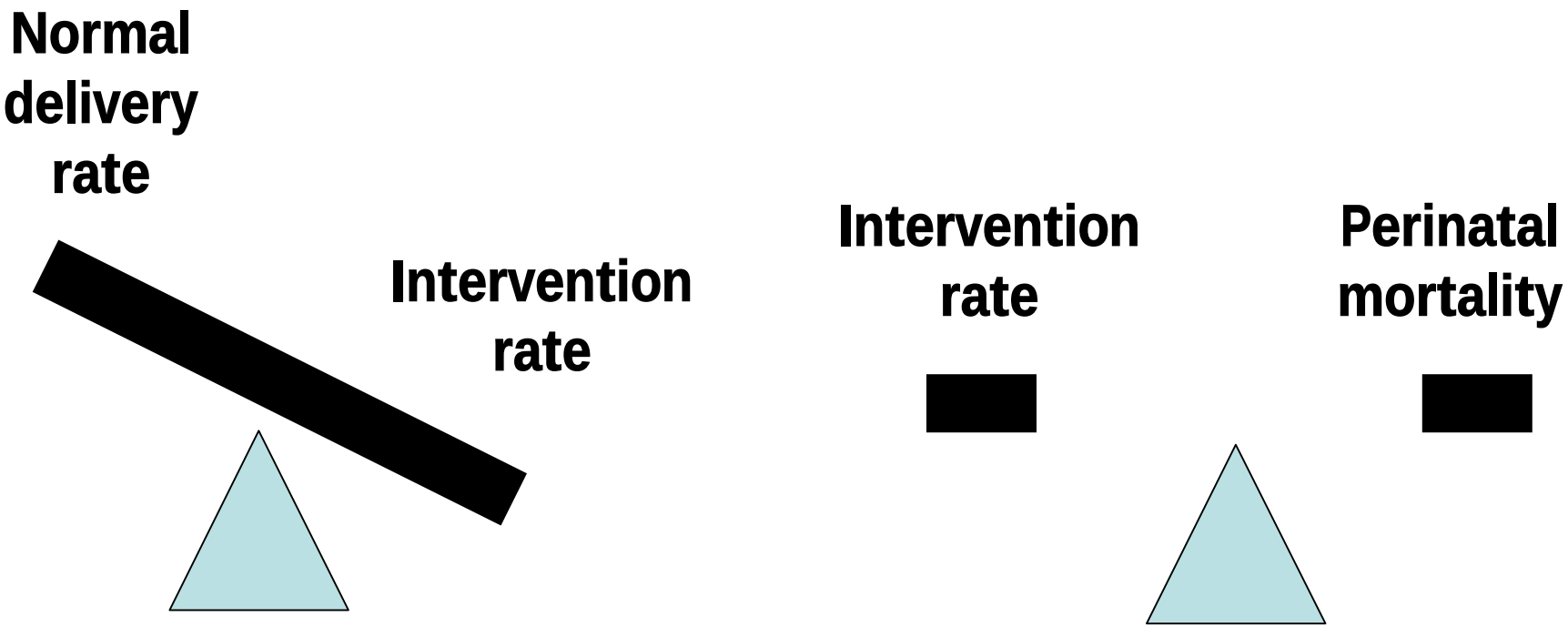
Reflecting on why women in the UK – a developed and educated nation with a National Health Service - continue to have **high** intervention rates. What can be done to reduce these?

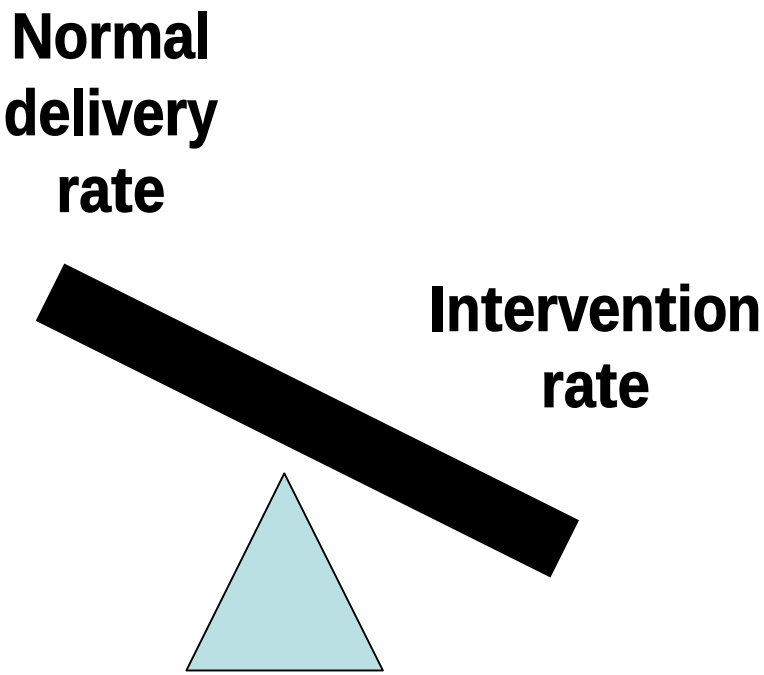
	2008-2009
• Epidural	30%
• Instrumental delivery	12.2%
• Caesarean section	24.6%

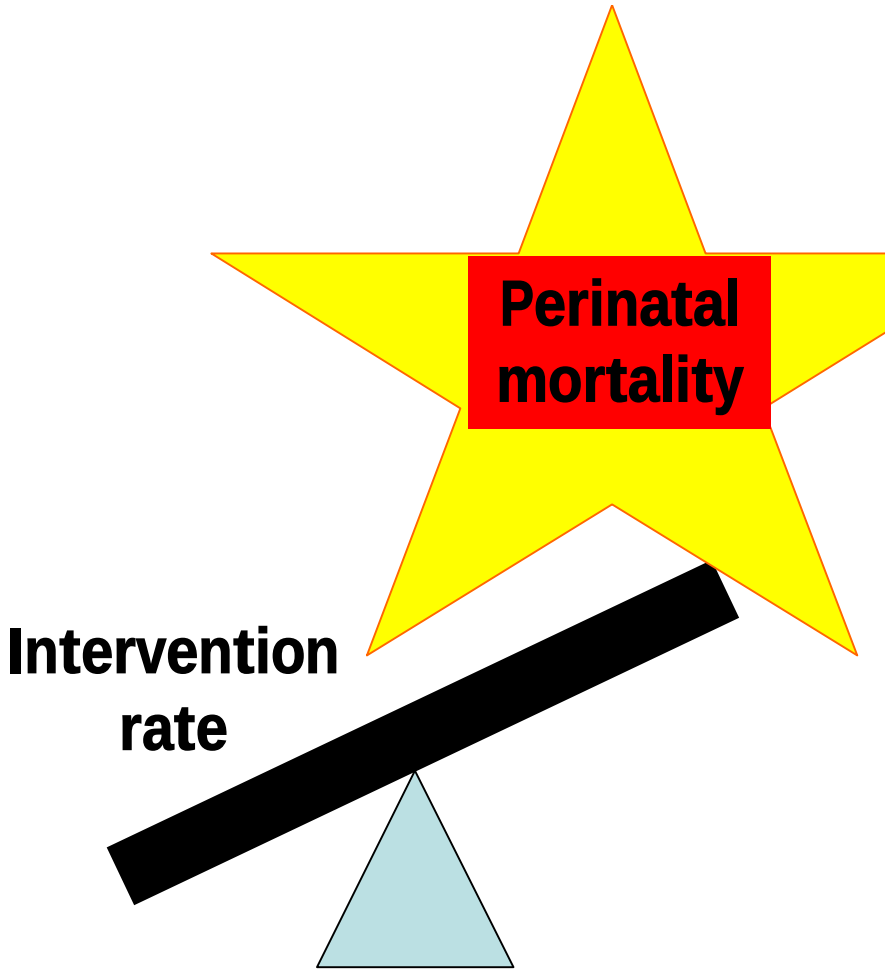

EUROPEAN PERINATAL HEALTH REPORT
by the EURO-PERISTAT project
in collaboration with
SCPE, EUROCAT & EURONEOSTAT
Belgium
BE: Flanders 18.9 10.7
BE: Brussels 17.2 9.6
Czech Republic 16.3
Denmark 20.5 7.5
Germany 27.3 5.6
Estonia 17.7 3.9
Ireland 25.1 15.3
Greece
Spain
ES: Valencia 24.6 13.7
France 20.2 11.1
Italy 37.8
Cyprus
Latvia 19.6
Lithuania 17.4
Luxembourg 25.3 4.6
Hungary 25.6
Malta 28.3 3.8
Netherlands 15.1 10.6
Austria 23.5 5.2
Poland 26.3
Portugal 33.1 13.1
Slovenia 14.4 2.9
Slovak Republic 19.2
Finland 17.1 6.5
Sweden 17.4 7.8
United Kingdom
UK: England 23.0 10.8
UK: Wales 25.1 9.6
UK: Scotland 24.7 11.8
UK: Northern Ireland 27.6 11.9
Norway 15.6 8.4
0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50
Percentage of births
Italy 37.8%
Netherlands 15.1% and 10.6%
Finland/Sweden 17% and 6-7%
UK 24% and 12%

Big assumption


Normal delivery rate
Intervention rate


Normal delivery rate
Intervention rate
Intervention rate
Perinatal mortality


Normal delivery rate
Intervention rate


Perinatal mortality
Intervention rate

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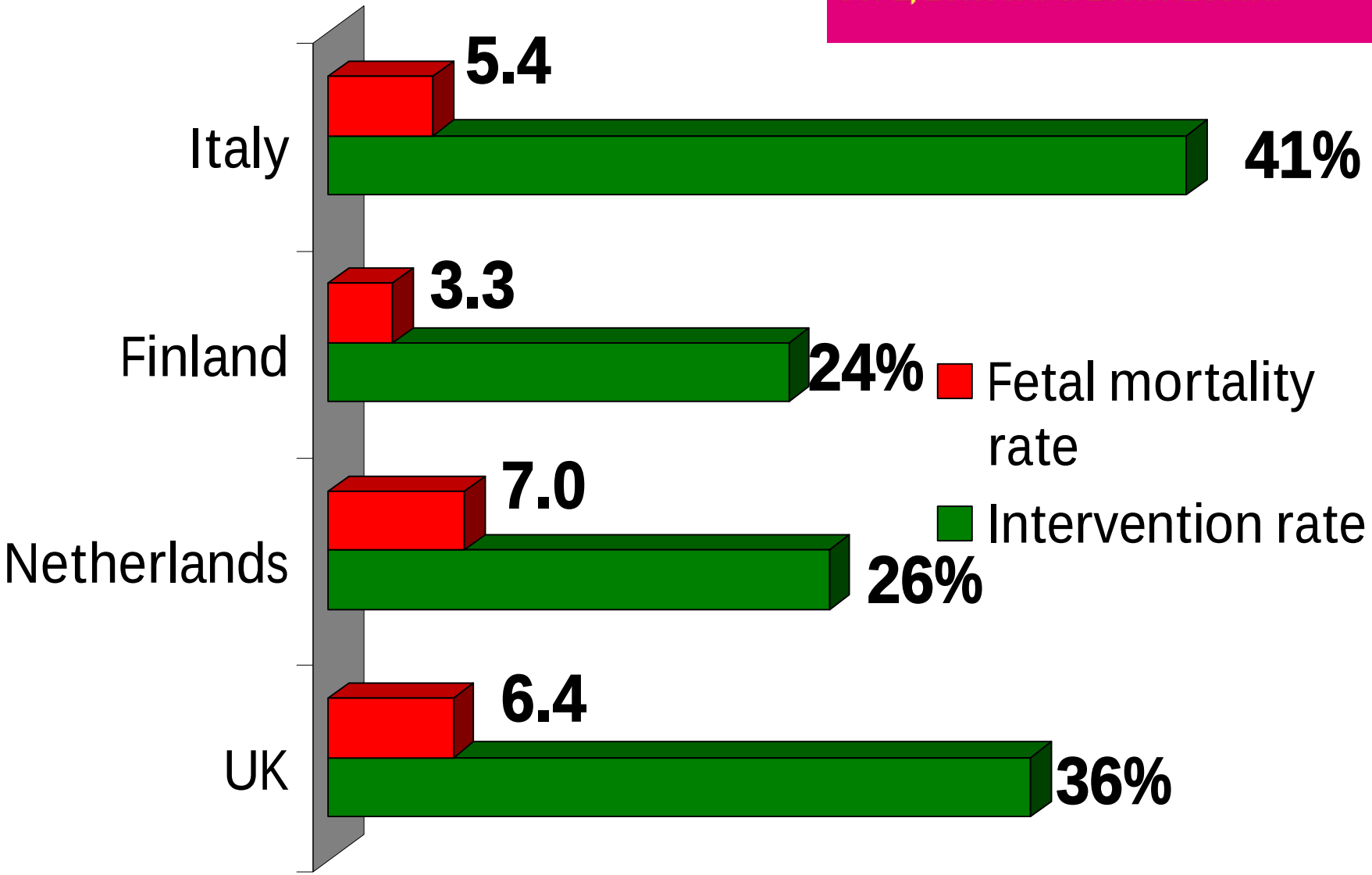
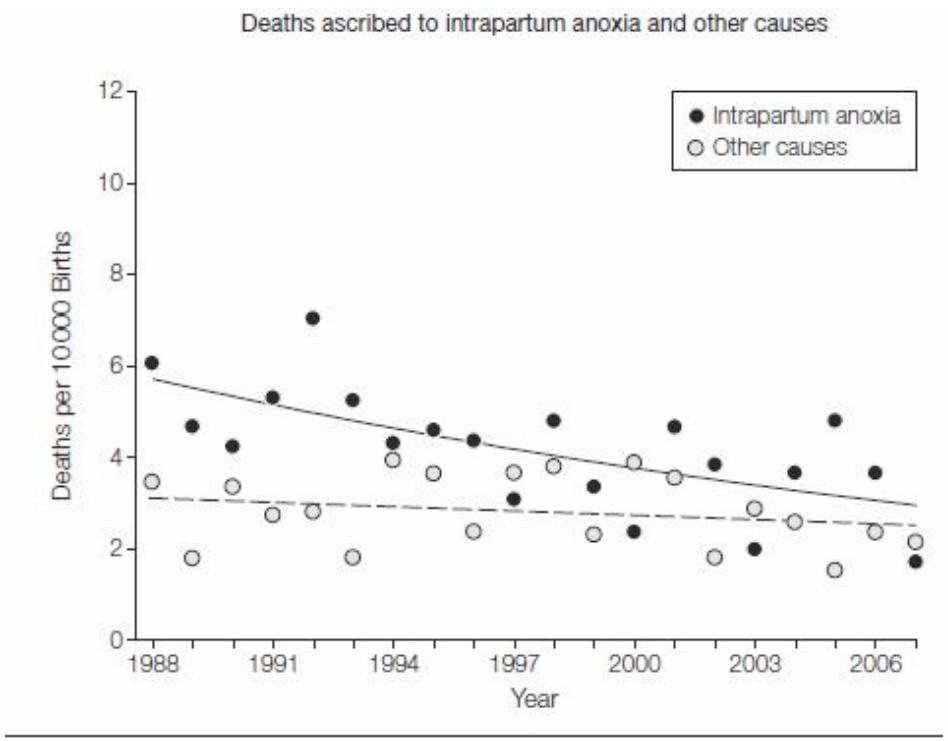
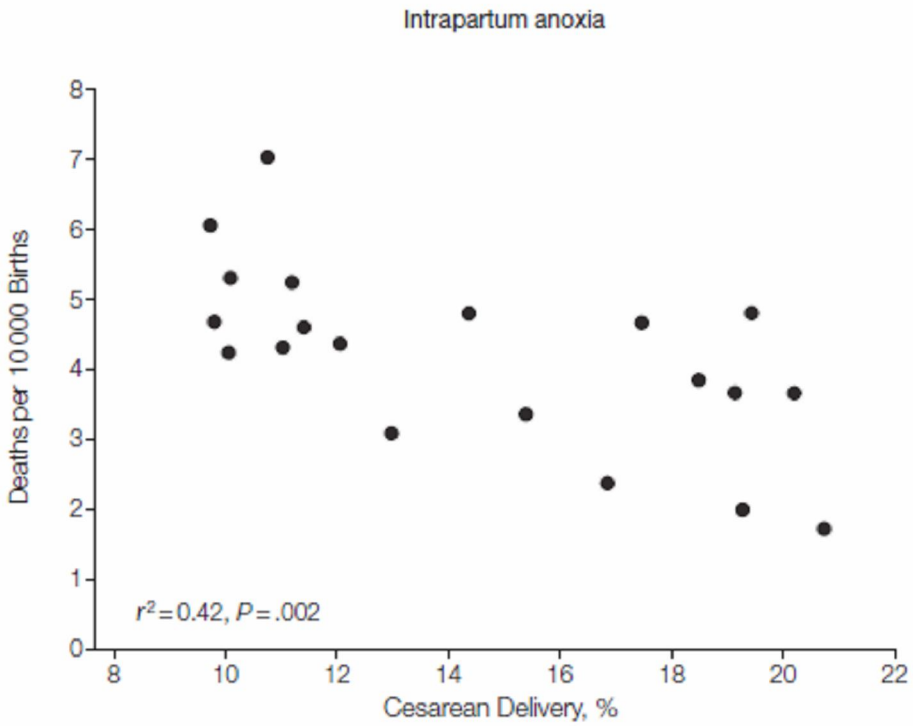






Rates of and Factors Associated With Delivery-Related Perinatal Death Among Term Infants in Scotland

1 012 266 singleton infants 1988-2007

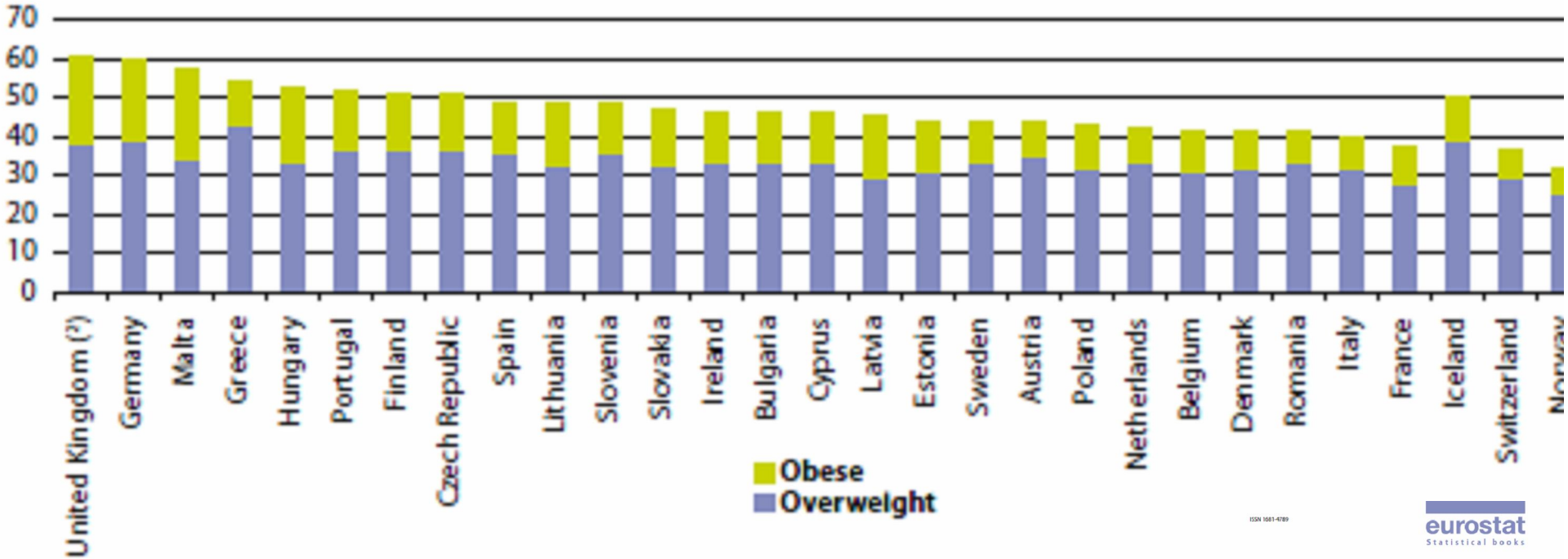
‘Something’ should be done to reduce the ‘high’ intervention rates seen in the UK

What can we do?

- With continuous support
  - More likely to have a spontaneous vaginal delivery
- Upright in first stage
  - Less likely to have an epidural
- Upright in second stage
  - Less likely to have an instrumental
- With an epidural
  - More likely to have an instrumental

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®

Figure 3.12: Overweight people, 2003 (¹)
(% of total population)



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eurostat
Statistical books

Europe in figures — Eurostat yearbook 2010

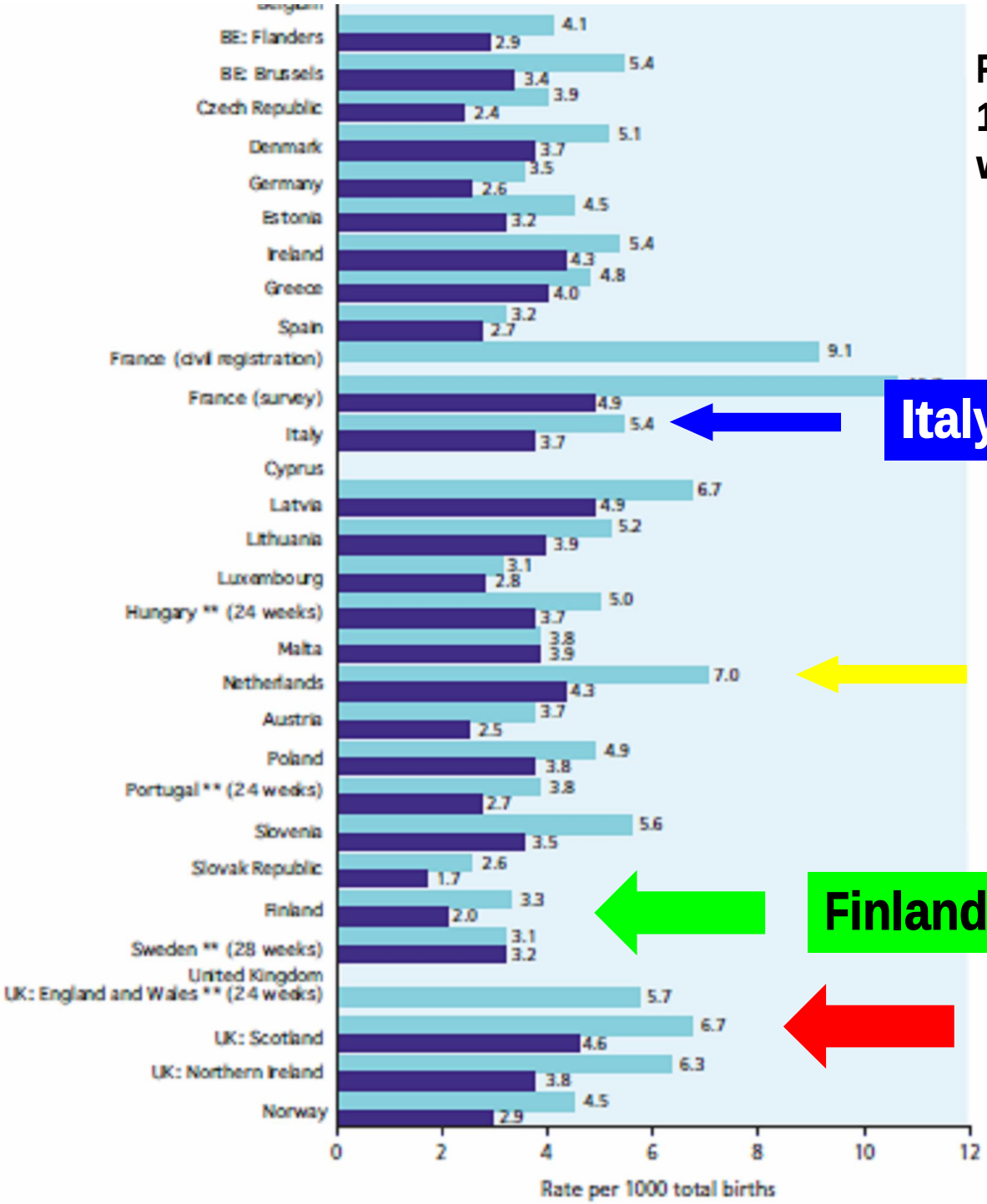
The effects of maternal body mass index on pregnancy outcome

A. S. Khashan · L. C. Kenny

Variable	All CS *n*	Unadjusted RR (95% CI) for all CS	Adjusted[a] RR (95% CI) for all CS
BMI			
Normal	8,714	1.00	1.00
Underweight	2,92	0.79 (0.72, 0.87)	0.88 (0.80, 0.97)
Overweight	6,568	1.35 (1.31, 1.38)	1.31 (1.28, 1.35)
Obese	4,657	1.69 (1.63, 1.74)	1.66 (1.61, 1.71)
Morbidly obese	703	2.21 (2.08, 2.35)	2.19 (2.06, 2.32)

Eur J Epidemiol (2009) 24:697–705

Thank you



Fetal mortality rate given per 1000 live and stillbirths after 22 weeks gestation

Italy 5.4 per 1000

Netherlands 7 per 1000

Finland/Sweden 3.3 and 3.2

UK 6.4 per 1000