IRIS
IUGR Risk Selection Study

Your midwife is participating in the IRIS study. In this leaflet we would like to give you some more information about this study.

Why this study?

The growth of your child during pregnancy is very important for his/her healthy development. For this reason your midwife will monitor his/her growth by taking careful measurements of your belly. If your child appears to be growing suboptimally, the midwife will carry out further research and if necessary refer you to the hospital.

In the IRIS study we would like to investigate how well this method is able to identify unborn children who are too small. As your midwife also believes this to be important, she is taking part in the IRIS study.

What does this study mean for you?

We will ask your permission to use information belonging to you and your child; you will not need to do anything more yourself. In order to improve the quality of care for mother and child, care providers will send some information about the care of their clients through a protected channel to a central database in Utrecht (Netherlands Perinatal Registry (PRN)[1]). Your midwife has asked you if we may use this information as well for the IRIS study. If there is anything of medical relevance, an obstetrician and/or a paediatrician could be involved in your pregnancy. For this reason, we would also like to ask your permission to obtain more information from them if necessary. You can give your consent by completing the enclosed letter of consent. You can then hand in the completed form to your midwife.

If you don't give your consent to use your personal information for the IRIS study, then this will have absolutely no influence on the care you are receiving from your midwife.

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[1] The Perinatal Registry contains information recorded by midwives, general practitioners, obstetricians and paediatricians in order to improve the quality of care. For more information see www.perinatreg.nl.

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You may always withdraw your consent, also after signing this form. You can inform your midwife or one of the researchers of the IRIS study about this (you will find the contact details below). You don't have to provide a reason for your decision.

If you give your consent, we will ask you to complete a short form asking about factors which could influence the growth of your baby. You will receive a visiting card from us containing your study number and our contact details. We would like to ask you to carry this card with you and to show it other healthcare providers you may see during your pregnancy or labour (such as an obstetrician or sonographer).

Confidentiality

All the information which we will obtain for the IRIS study will be treated confidentially. The collected information will be separated from your name and address and be processed to ensure your anonymity. Unlicensed external parties cannot access your personal information. We will use your address only for the purpose of contacting you. Your name will not appear in any publications about the study.

Participation

We would really appreciate it if you give your consent to use your personal information for the IRIS study. By participating you will be contributing to knowledge about the best way to monitor the growth of your child during pregnancy. This is important for ensuring and promoting the health of your child and other children.

If you are hesitating or you would like more information, please contact Viki Verfaille (midwife researcher). She can be reached from Monday till Thursday by telephone (+31 20-4441746) or by e-mail (irisstudie@vumc.nl).

Project employees

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