

GBS Midwife Survey 2013

Conducted by charity Group B Strep Support at the
Royal College of Midwives Annual Conference
13-14 November 2013

What do Midwives really know about group B Strep?



Source: Group B Strep Support
Date: November 2013
Base: 163 respondent Midwives

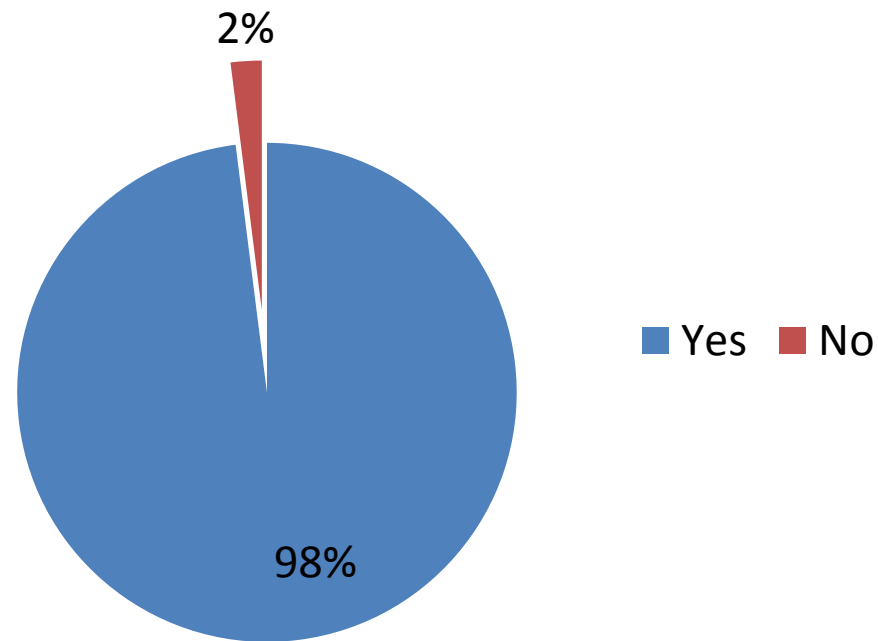
Executive Summary

Group B Strep is the most common cause of serious infection in newborn babies with an incidence of culture-proven cases in babies aged 0-6 days of 0.5 cases per 1,000 live births and a mortality rate of 10.6% (Source: Heath PT et al, 2004). Midwives play a key role in the identification of mothers whose babies are at raised risk of these infections.

- 95% of Midwives did not know that rate of GBS infection in newborn babies per 1,000 live births has increased by 46% in the last decade (Source: Lamagni et al, 2013)
- Only 8% of Midwives were not aware of their Hospital Trust's GBS guideline; 30% were not aware of the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists' (RCOG) GBS guideline
- Two thirds (66%) of Midwives felt that their Hospital Trust GBS guidelines were clear compared with 50% for the RCOG's GBS guidelines
- 44% of Midwives felt that they did not have adequate information about GBS
- Almost half (49%) of Midwives did not feel well informed enough to talk about GBS to families in their care
- 93% of Midwives did not know the correct combination of swab sites and culture method for best identification of GBS carriage
- Only 9% of Midwives did not want to see pregnant women offered tests for GBS carriage

Only 2% of Midwives had not heard of GBS before the conference

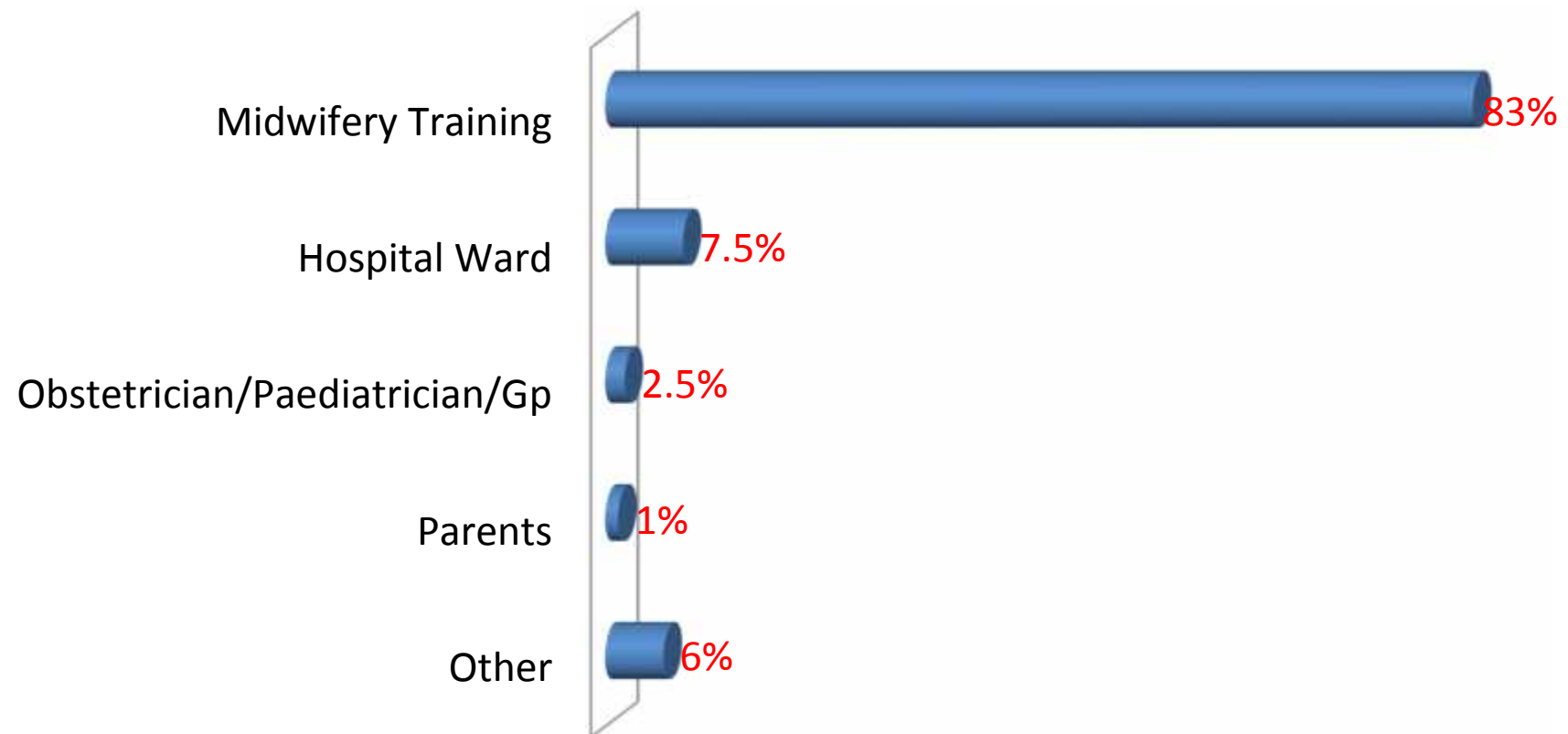
**Had you heard of Group B Streptococcus
(group B Strep/GBS)?**



Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (163 respondents)

83% of Midwives heard about GBS during their midwifery training

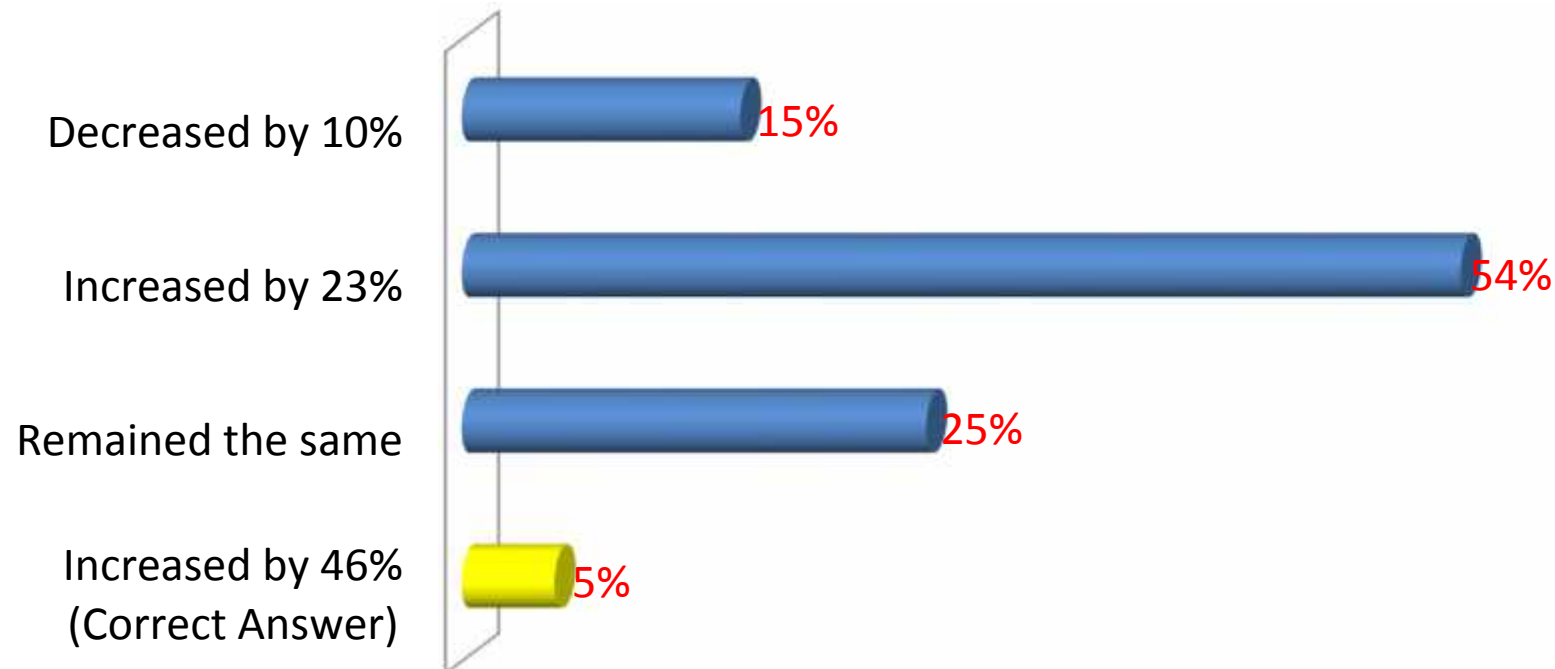
Where did you first hear about GBS?



Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (160 respondents)

Only 5% of Midwives were aware that early-onset GBS infections had increased by 46% in the last decade²

Do you think the rate per 1,000 live births of early onset GBS infection in England & Wales in the last decade has:

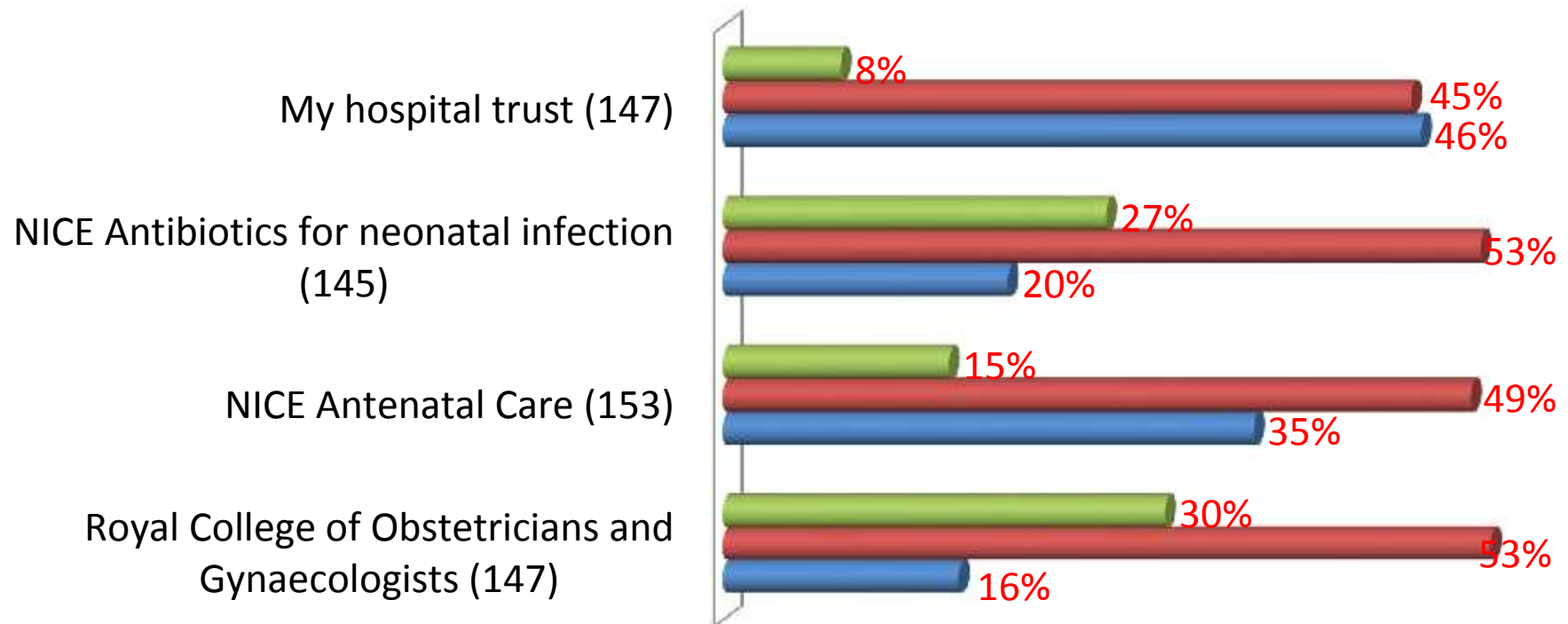


Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (158 respondents)

Only 46% of Midwives had read their Hospital Trust's GBS guidelines; only 16% had read RCOG's guidelines

In terms of current guidelines on GBS prevention

■ I am not aware of them ■ I am aware of them ■ I have read them

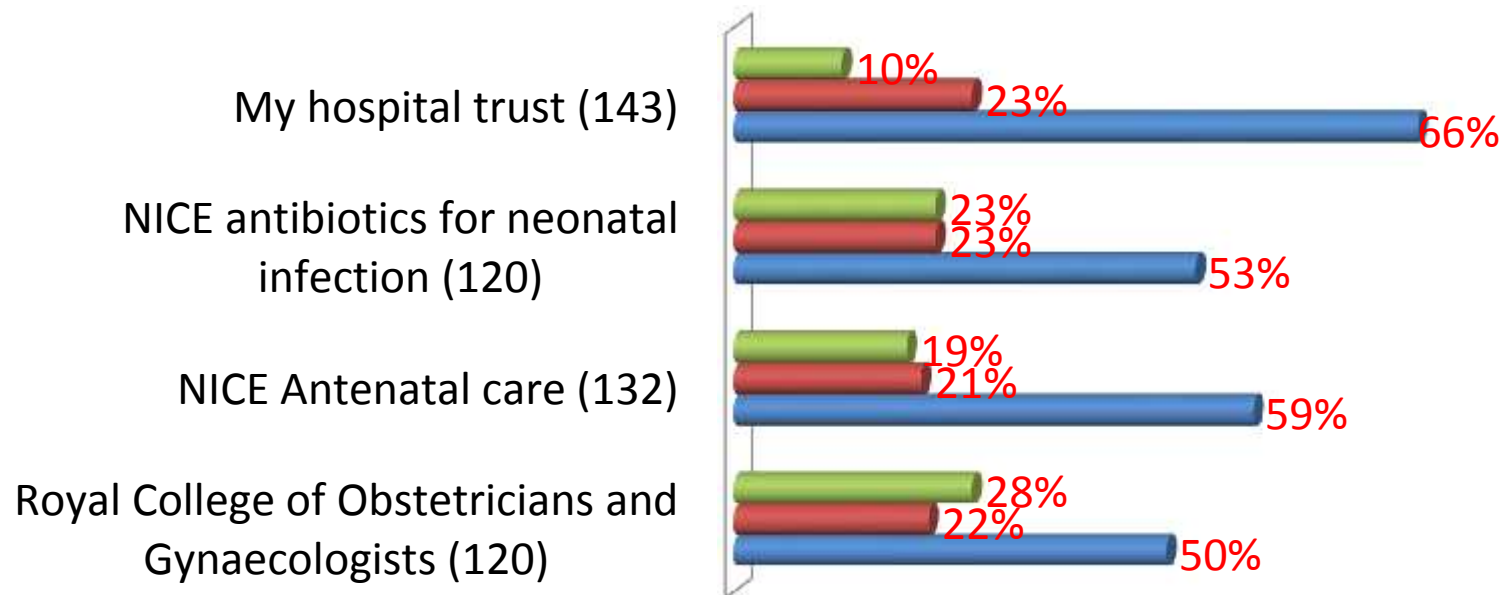


Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (147-153 respondents)

Two thirds (66%) of Midwives felt that their Hospital Trust's GBS guidelines were clear compared with 50% for RCOG's

Do you think that the risk based guidelines (from each issuer) are clear?

■ Neither clear nor unclear ■ Unclear ■ Clear

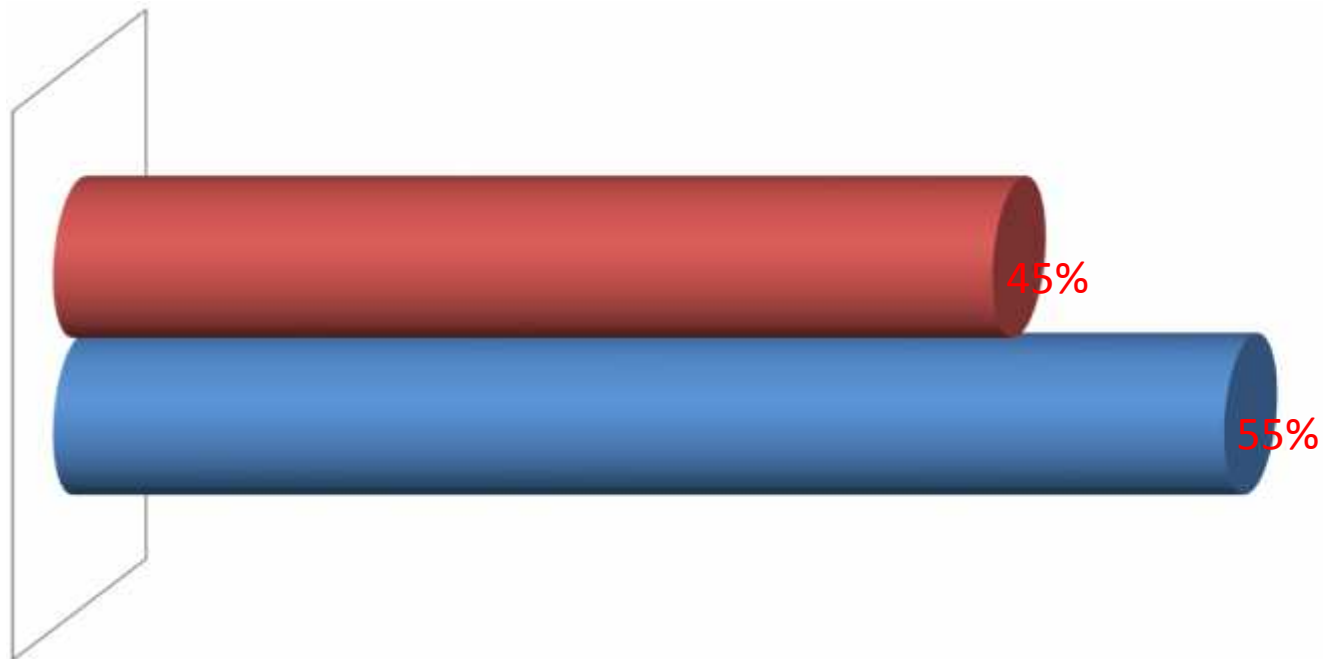


Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (120-143 respondents)

Almost half (44%) of Midwives felt that they did not have adequate information about GBS

Do you feel you have adequate information about GBS?

■ No ■ Yes

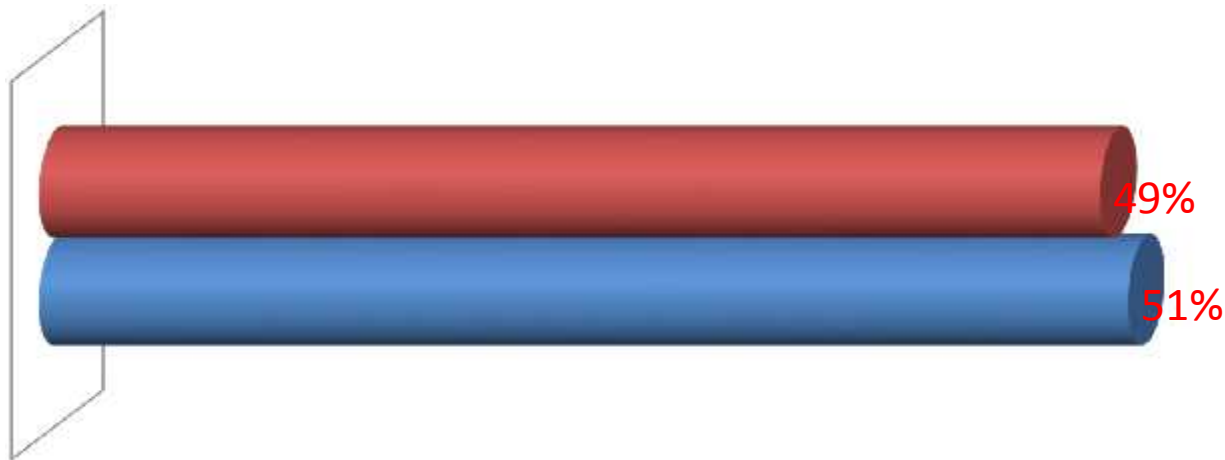


Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (155 respondents)

Almost half (49%) of Midwives did not feel well informed enough to talk about GBS to families in their care

Do you feel sufficiently well informed to talk about GBS with families in your care?

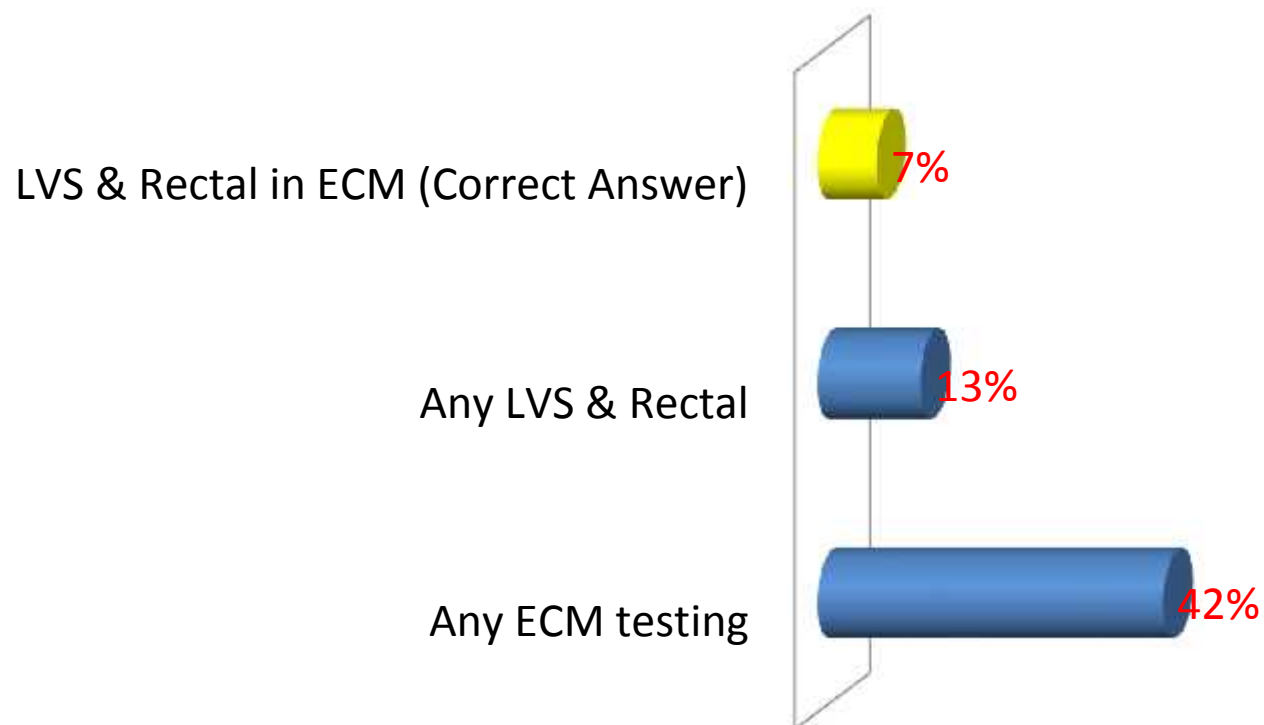
■ No ■ Yes



Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (154 respondents)

93% of Midwives did not know the correct combination of swab sites and culture method for best identification of GBS carriage

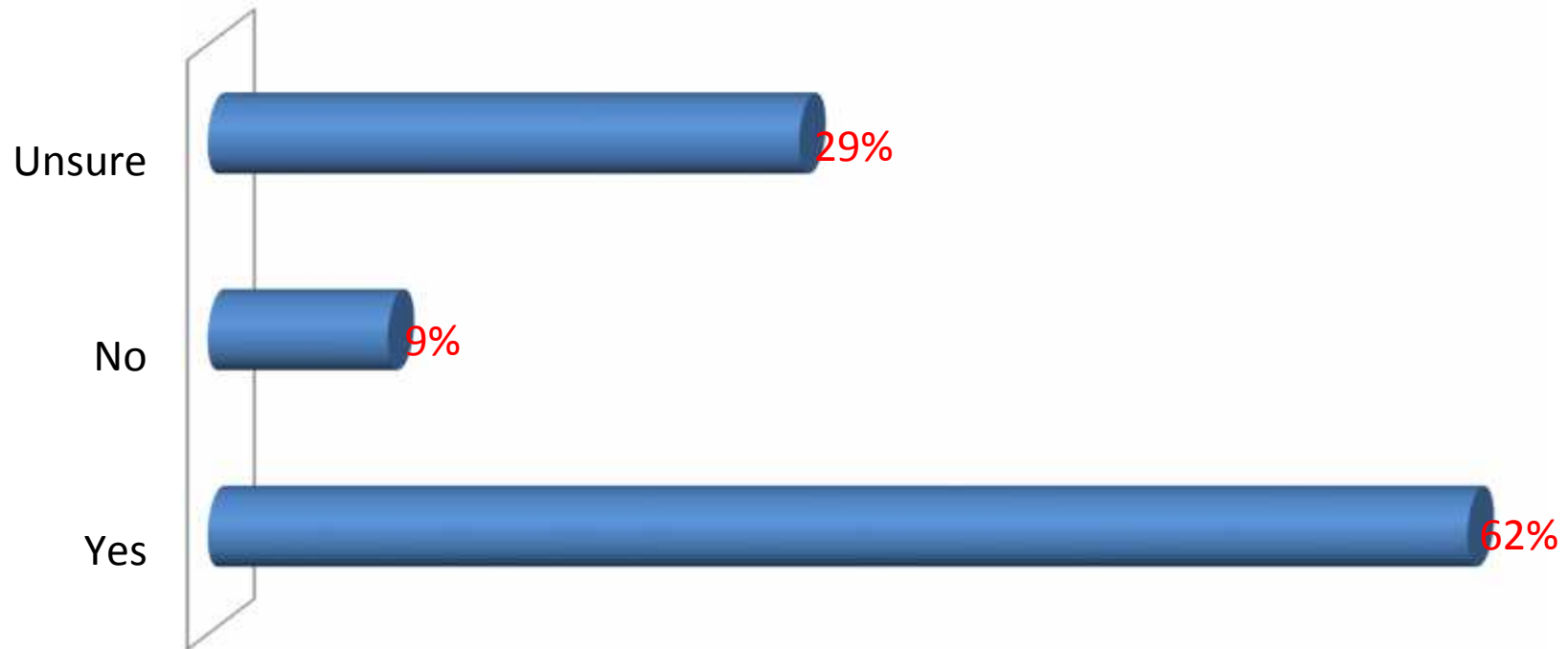
Which combination of swabs and culture method is best for identifying GBS carriage?



Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (111 respondents)

Only 9% of Midwives did **not** want to see pregnant women offered a test for GBS carriage

Would you like to see pregnant women offered testing for GBS carriage?



Base: GBSS Midwife Survey – RCM conference
November 2013 (158 respondents)

Methodology

- These results reveal that Midwives have not being given the information they need on GBS in order to inform and protect pregnant women
- Data collected via a survey questionnaire made available to Midwives at the RCM Annual Conference in Telford, November 2013
- Survey was conducted over the two day Conference 13-14 November 2013
- 163 Midwives (student and qualified) completely the survey form, though not all completed every question

References

1. Group B streptococcal disease in UK and Irish infants younger than 90 days. Heath PT, Balfour G, Weisner AM, et al. Lancet 2004;363:292–4
2. Emerging Trends in the Epidemiology of Invasive Group B Streptococcal Disease in England and Wales, 1991-2010. Lamagni TL et al. Clin Infect Dis. (2013) 57 (5):682-688.doi: 10.1093/cid/cit337 July 11, 2013