

APPENDIX X

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACMI	Australian College of Midwives Incorporated
ACNN	Australian College of Neonatal Nurses
aetiology	The science of causes, especially of disease
amnion	A thin but tough extraembryonic membrane of reptiles, birds and mammals that lines the chorion and contains the foetus and the amniotic fluid around it, in mammals it is derived from trophoblast by folding or splitting.
amniotic fluid	The fluid that surrounds the developing foetus within the amniotic sac. This environment cushions the baby from injury and plays an important role in foetal development.
anteartum death	Death of a baby before the onset of labour
ANZNN	Australian and New Zealand Neonatal Network
ANZSA	Australian and New Zealand Stillbirth Alliance
APC resistance	Activated protein C resistance
Apgar score	A system to assess the status of the infant after birth. The Apgar score is based on the following five variables: heart rate, respiratory effort, muscle tone, reflex irritability and colour. Maximum score is 10. It is recorded at one minute and five minutes after birth.
APS	Antiphospholipid syndrome
AP view	Anterio-posteria view
autopsy	A surgical procedure postmortem, which involves the examination of body tissues (including internal organs), often to determine cause of death.
cardiotocography (CTG)	The electronic monitoring of the fetal heart rate and of uterine contractions. The fetal heart rate is recorded by means of either an external ultrasonic abdominal transducer or a fetal scalp electrode. Uterine contractions are recorded by means of an abdominal pressure transducer. The recordings are graphically represented on a continuous paper printout (trace).

case control studies	Case control studies are used to evaluate multiple risk factors associated with a particular disease or outcome. They are particularly useful when the condition is rare.
chorion	Extraembryonic membrane surrounding the embryo of amniote vertebrates. The outer epithelial layer of the chorion is derived from the trophoblast.
chromosome analysis (karyotype)	A picture of the chromosomes of an individual arranged in a standard manner so that abnormalities of chromosome number or form can be identified.
confidential enquiry	Enquiry by peer groups, including experts in the field, into the cause of, and the factors surrounding, a death, where strict confidentiality is observed at all stages of the process. It is a form of clinical audit, with the important difference that the feedback or 'closing of the audit loop' is via reports on the general findings, and not direct feedback to those involved with the individual cases subjected to enquiry.
CESDI	Confidential Enquiry into Stillbirths and Deaths in Infancy
CMA	Chromosomal microarray
CMV	cytomegalovirus
confidence intervals (95% CI)	A range of values about which there is a 95% chance that it includes the true value. For example, if the stillbirth rate is 5.4 per 1000 total births and the 95% confidence intervals are 5.3 to 5.5 per 1000 total births, then there is a 95% chance that the actual stillbirth rate lies between 5.3 and 5.5 per 1000 total births.
congenital anomaly	A physical malformation, chromosomal disorder or metabolic abnormality which is present at birth.
control	As used in a case control study, 'control' means person(s) in a comparison group that differ only in their experience of the disease or condition in question. If matched controls are used they are selected so that they are similar to the study group, or cases, in specific characteristics, eg age, sex, weight.
customised birthweight	The principle that the weight reference for the fetus should be individualised (customised), and not based on population averages. Factors shown to be predictive of birthweight are maternal height, weight at booking for the first antenatal visit, ethnicity and fetal gender and gestational age. The customised birthweight is an adjusted standard for the individual infant. <i>Gardosi, J., M. Mongelli, M. Wilcox, and A. Chang. 1995. An adjustable fetal weight standard. Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 6 (3):168-74.</i>

cytogenetics	The study of the structure of chromosomes; cytogenetic tests are carried out to detect any chromosomal abnormalities associated with a disease; these help in the diagnosis and selection of optimal treatment.
denominator	The population at risk in the calculation of a rate or ratio. An example relevant to CESDI is the number of all live births as the denominator for neonatal mortality rate.
DIC	Disseminated intravascular coagulation is an acquired disorder of clotting characterised by intravascular fibrin formation which occurs in the course of a variety of conditions including sepsis and pre-eclampsia.
DCT	direct Coombs test
early neonatal death	Death of a liveborn infant occurring less than 7 completed days (168 hours) from the time of birth.
EFM	electronic fetal monitoring
fasting blood glucose	A method for finding out how much glucose (sugar) is in the blood. The test can show if a person has diabetes.
FBS	Fetal blood sampling. This is a test performed in labour to obtain a capillary blood sample from the baby to check for well-being.
fetal growth restriction (FGR)	This is a term often used interchangeably with the term 'small for gestational age' (SGA). SGA is defined as a baby/fetus with antenatal ultrasound biometry assessment less than the 10 th centile for gestational age according to National birthweight centiles. FGR strictly refers to babies that have failed to reach their growth potential during pregnancy. They are frequently but not always SGA. FGR is defined antenatally by an estimated fetal weight or serial antenatal ultrasound evidence of growth restriction or growth arrest and at birth a birthweight below the 10 th centile using the National birthweight centiles. Ideally FGR should be defined according to the infant's individual growth potential using customised birthweight centiles. See customised birthweight.
fetal death	See stillbirth.
FHR	fetal heart rate
GBS	group B streptococcus
gestation	The time from conception to birth. The duration of gestation is measured from the first day of the last normal menstrual period.
gestational diabetes	A carbohydrate intolerance of variable severity with onset, or first recognition during pregnancy.
glucose tolerance	A test for diagnosing diabetes, where blood glucose is measured in

test	intervals after a glucose-rich meal is taken.
GP	General practitioner
growth restriction	See also fetal growth restriction. Birthweight below the 10 th centile for gestational age according to National birthweight centiles. Ideally FGR should be defined according to the infant's individual growth potential using customised birthweight centiles.
GTT	Glucose tolerance test. This is a test for diagnosing diabetes, where blood glucose is measured at specific intervals after a glucose-rich meal is taken.
haemoglobin A1c (Hba1c)	The substance of red blood cells that carries oxygen to the cells and sometimes joins with glucose. Because the glucose stays attached for the life of the cell (about 4 months), a test to measure haemoglobin A1C shows what the person's average blood glucose level was for that period of time.
HELLP syndrome	haemolysis, elevated liver function, low platelets
histology	The study of cells and tissue on the microscopic level.
histopathology	This is the science concerned with the study of microscopic changes in diseased tissues.
infant death	Death in the first year following live birth; on or before the 365 th day of life (366 th in a leap year).
infant mortality rate	See mortality rates.
intermittent auscultation	Listening to the fetal heart at regular intervals between contractions.
intrapartum death	Fetal death during labour. If a baby is born without signs of life, but also without maceration (the skin and other changes that occur at varying lengths of time after death in the womb), there is a strong presumption that death occurred during labour. There are exceptions in both directions, which require judgement on the timing of death in relation to the presumed onset of labour.
intrauterine fetal death (IUFD)	Death of a fetus in utero after 20 weeks gestation or at birth weighing at least 400gms. See stillbirth.
ITP	idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura
IUFD	See intrauterine fetal death

intra-uterine growth restriction (IUGR)	See fetal growth restriction.
karyotype	The complete set of chromosomes of a cell or organism; used especially for the display prepared from photographs of mitotic chromosomes arranged in homologous pairs
Kleihauer-Betke	A blood test performed on the mother's blood to identify whether substantial bleeding has occurred from the fetus into the mother's circulation.
live birth	A livebirth is the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached; each product of such a birth is considered liveborn.
methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) gene	The MTHFR gene provides instructions for making an enzyme called methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase. This enzyme plays a role in processing amino acids (the building blocks of proteins).
MIA	Minimally-invasive autopsy
mortality rates	Perinatal mortality rate. The number of stillbirths and neonatal deaths per 1000 births.
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MTHFR	methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase
necropsy	Rarely used term for autopsy.
neonatal death	Death before the age of 28 completed days following livebirth.
neonatal death rate	The number of neonatal deaths (those occurring within the first 28 days of life) per 1000 livebirths.
NHMRC	National Health & Medical Research Council
NIA	Non-invasive autopsy
odds ratio (OR)	This is a measure of the excess risk or degree of protection given by exposure to a certain factor. An odds ratio of greater than one shows an increased risk and less than one shows a protective effect.

PA view	Posterior-anterior view
pathology	The branch of medicine concerned with disease, especially its structure and its functional effects on the body.
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
Perinatal mortality rate (PMR)	See mortality rates.
post-mortem	After death. Hence a post-mortem examination may or may not include an autopsy.
Postneonatal infant death	Death occurring after 28 completed days up to 1 year following live birth.
PSANZ	Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand
PSANZ-PDC	Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand – Perinatal Death Classification
PSANZ-NDC	Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand – Neonatal Death Classification
PSANZ-PMG	Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Perinatal Mortality Group
RACP	Royal Australasian College of Physicians – Division of Paediatrics & Child
RANZCOG	Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
RCP	Royal College of Pathologists
RCPA	Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia
SAFDA	Support After Fetal Diagnosis of Abnormality
SANDS	Stillbirth And Neonatal Death Support Group
SGA	Small for gestational age – see IUGR.
SLE	systemic lupus erythematosus
Stillbirth (fetal death)	Death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception of 20 or more completed weeks of gestation or of 400g or more birthweight where gestation is not known. The death is indicated by the fact that after such separation the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary

	muscles.
stillbirth rate	The number of stillbirths per 1000 births.
sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)	<p>General Definition of SIDS</p> <p>SIDS is defined as the sudden unexpected death of an infant <1 year of age, with onset of the fatal episode apparently occurring during sleep, that remains unexplained after a thorough investigation, including performance of a complete autopsy and review of the circumstances of death and the clinical history.</p> <p><i>Krous HF, Beckwith JB, Byard RW, Rognum TO, Bajanowski T, Corey T, et al. Sudden infant death syndrome and unclassified sudden infant deaths: a definitional and diagnostic approach. Pediatrics 2004;114(1):234-8.</i></p>
SIDS AND KIDS	An organisation striving to eliminate sudden and unexpected infant deaths, supporting bereaved families and funding research.
termination of pregnancy	This is the term used to describe deliberate ending of a pregnancy with the intention that the fetus will not survive.
VTE	venous thromboembolism
WISSP	The Wisconsin Stillbirth Protocol Program