

## Editor's choice

### **STAN in clinical practice –The outcome of 2 years of regular use in the city of Gothenburg.**

**Noren H, Blad S, Carlsson A, Flisberg A, Gustavsson A, Lilja H, Wennergren M, Hagberg H.**

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Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Perinatal Center, Department of Pediatrics, Sahlgrenska University Hospital; Department of Physiology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

**OBJECTIVE:** The purpose of this study was to monitor the introduction of the STAN-methodology (Noventa Medical, Moelndal, Sweden). **STUDY DESIGN:** This was a prospective observational study covering the total population of deliveries at term during 2 years. Four thousand eight hundred and thirty out of 14,687 term pregnancies were monitored using the STAN S 21 fetal heart monitor and the associated clinical guidelines. Cord artery metabolic acidosis, neonatal outcome, and rates of operative deliveries for fetal distress were assessed. **RESULTS:** The annual rate of STAN usage increased from 28.1% to 37.7% and was associated with a significant reduction in metabolic acidosis rate in the total population from 0.76% to 0.44% ( $P < .05$ ). The compliance with the clinical guidelines increased in cases requiring intervention. The rates for moderate/severe hypoxic neonatal encephalopathy were consistently low, 0.55 and 0.68 per 1000 deliveries, respectively, and corresponding to previous findings. The rate of operative delivery did not change during the 2 years in the total population. **CONCLUSION:** Increasing STAN usage provided consistent improvements in fetal outcome equalling those noted in the Swedish randomized controlled trial (RCT) without increasing operative interventions for fetal distress.