

Higher mortality tied to planned vaginal breech delivery

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(HealthDay)—Perinatal mortality and morbidity is significantly higher with planned vaginal breech delivery compared with planned cesarean delivery, according to a review published online July 29 in *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology*.

Yifru Berhan, M.D., of the Hawassa University College, and Abraham Haileamlak, M.D., of the Jimma University College of Public Health and Medicine—both in Ethiopia, conducted a systematic literature review (1993 to 2014) and meta-analysis to compare the absolute and relative risks of perinatal mortality and morbidity associated with planned vaginal delivery and planned [cesarean section](#) for delivery in term singleton breech presentations. Twenty-seven articles with 258,953 women were included.

The researchers found that the relative risk of perinatal mortality and morbidity was two- to five-fold higher with planned vaginal versus planned cesarean delivery. In the planned [vaginal delivery](#) group the absolute risk was 0.3 percent for perinatal mortality, 0.7 percent for fetal neurologic [morbidity](#), 0.7 percent for birth trauma, 2.4 percent for 5-minute Apgar score

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