

Slovenia

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History and Funding

The registry in Slovenia was established in 2010. The registry is funded by the University Medical Centre Ljubljana and is an ENTIS member. The Clinical Institute of Medical Genetics (CIMG) is part of a UMCL, which is the central public health (tertiary health care level) institution of Slovenia.

Population Coverage

There are 7 regions in Slovenia covered by the registry: Gorenjska, Stajerska, Prekmurje, Koroska, Notranjska, Primorska and Dolenjska. The registry is population-based II with 20% non-resident mothers delivering within registry area

Sources of Ascertainment

Notification to the registry is not obligatory. Because the UMCL (and its Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology) is one of two tertiary centres in Slovenia, the majority of congenital anomalies is covered and managed by this institution.

Reports are obtained from delivery unit, neonatal, pediatric and pathology departments. CIMG is also the central institution for Medical Genetics in Slovenia, so there is direct access to cytogenetic and molecular genetic laboratories. Information can also be received from national Birth Register (Perinatal Information System of the Republic of Slovenia).

Maximum Age at Diagnosis

Up to 1 month of age for surveillance purposes, but later diagnoses can also be registered.

Terminations of Pregnancy for Fetal Anomaly (TOPFA)

Termination of pregnancy is legal in all cases for socio-economic reasons up to 10 weeks of pregnancy.

Termination of pregnancy for major fetal and genetic anomalies is legal for any gestational age, but it is preferred before the 24th week of pregnancy. There are several legal commissions in charge of terminations of pregnancies after the 10th week of pregnancy.

Stillbirth and Early Fetal Deaths

The official stillbirth definition is a case of gestational age 28 weeks or more, or birth weight 500g or more.

Exposure Data Availability

CIMG is also the only Teratology Information Service for the whole of Slovenia, so a lot of exposure information (maternal and paternal occupation, teratogens in pregnancy etc) can be obtained from its register. Information can also be obtained from medical documentation and from the Perinatal Information System for the Republic of Slovenia.

Denominators and Controls Information

Birth statistics are provided by the Perinatal Information System for the Republic of Slovenia. Births by maternal age group and by month of birth are available also.