

Oxford AHSN Maternity Network Guideline 16/8/16 v1

Indications for request for Placental Histology

It is advised that placentas from the following pregnancies are sent for histopathology:

- All babies in unexpectedly poor condition with admission to NNU/ITU/HDU
- All stillbirths and neonatal deaths.
- All deliveries whether alive or not between 16 and 32+0 weeks
- All abnormal babies WITHOUT a clear antenatal diagnosis
- All suspected abnormally invasive placentas (placenta accreta)
- All babies suspected of severe growth restriction
- Monochorionic twins

The following are not normally indications for a request for placental histology

- Twins (dichorionic)
- Abnormal baby where diagnosis clear
- Mildly small for gestational age with no NNU admission eg >3rd centile.

Supporting Documents

- 1) Perinatal Pathology Request Form
- 2) Instructions/poster regarding sending placental histology requests