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**Risk perception and choice of place of birth in women with high risk pregnancies: a qualitative study**

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**Abstract**

**Objective** To examine the perception of risk among a group of women with high risk pregnancies who were either planning to give birth in hospital, or at home despite medical advice to the contrary. The intention was to consider differences and similarities between the groups to examine how perception of risk relates to choice of place of birth.

**Design** Qualitative study using semi-structured interviews. Setting Maternity department in a hospital in South East England.

**Participants** Twenty-six women with high risk pregnancies, at least 32 weeks pregnant. Half were planning hospital births and half homebirths.

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