

#### Comparison 4: Ritgen's manoeuvre compared with usual practice ("hands-on" approach)

Source: Aasheim V, Nilsen A, Reinar L, Lukasse M. Perineal techniques during the second stage of labour for reducing perineal trauma. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2017;(6):CD006672.

No. of studies	Study design	Quality assessment					No. of participants		Effect		Certainty (GRADE)	Importance
		Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Ritgen's manoeuvre	Standard practice	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
<b>Intact perineum</b>												
1	RCT	very serious <sup>a</sup>	not serious	not serious	very serious <sup>b,c</sup>	none	1/33 (3.0%)	6/33 (18.2%)	RR 0.17 (0.02-1.31)	151 fewer per 1000 (from 56 more to 178 fewer)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	critical
<b>Third- or fourth-degree tears</b>												
1	RCT	serious <sup>d</sup>	not serious	not serious	serious <sup>b</sup>	none	38/696 (5.5%)	32/727 (4.4%)	RR 1.24 (0.78-1.96)	11 more per 1000 (from 10 fewer to 42 more)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	critical
<b>First-degree tear</b>												
1	RCT	very serious <sup>a</sup>	not serious	not serious	serious <sup>c</sup>	none	6/33 (18.2%)	19/33 (57.6%)	RR 0.32 (0.14-0.69)	392 fewer per 1000 (from 178 fewer to 495 fewer)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	critical
<b>Second-degree tear</b>												
1	RCT	very serious <sup>a</sup>	not serious	not serious	very serious <sup>b,c</sup>	none	26/33 (78.8%)	8/33 (24.2%)	RR 3.25 (1.73-6.09)	545 more per 1000 (from 177 more to 1000 more)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	critical
<b>Episiotomy</b>												
2	RCTs	serious <sup>d</sup>	not serious	not serious	serious <sup>b</sup>	none	95/729 (13.0%)	123/760 (16.2%)	RR 0.81 (0.63-1.03)	31 fewer per 1000 (from 5 more to 60 fewer)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	critical

CI: confidence interval; RCT: randomized controlled trial; RR: risk ratio.

<sup>a</sup> Most of the pooled effect derived from studies with a moderate or high risk of bias but with a substantial proportion (i.e. > 50%) from studies with a high risk of bias.

<sup>b</sup> Wide confidence interval crossing the line of no effect.

<sup>c</sup> Small sample size and/or few events.

<sup>d</sup> Most of the pooled effect derived from studies with a moderate or high risk of bias but without a substantial proportion (i.e. with < 50%) from studies with a high risk of bias.