1415 babies born between January and March 2000 at St Stephens Hospital

212 babies born through meconium stained amniotic fluid

112 mothers registered in antenatal clinic, antenatal records, USG and Haematological investigations available

100 mothers referred from outside centers, antenatal records, investigations, N/A or incomplete

86 babies: 36 – 42 weeks of gestation, mothers without evidence of maternal infection (indicated by fever, premature rupture of membranes, or foul smelling vaginal discharge).

58 babies passed urine within 6 hours.

52 babies

25 thick MSAF

27 Thin MSAF

3 didn’t pass urine within 6 hrs

28 babies passed urine >6 hours

26 babies

18 Preterms <36 weeks

1 postdated

4 cases of PROM

3 mothers had fever >100 F, > 48 hrs

28 babies passed urine >6 hours

6 failed collection, spillage, volume <1 mL after centrifugation,

45 Intramural babies with complete antenatal records

No antenatal risk factors

Born at more than 36 weeks of gestation

Birth weights between 10th and 90th centile

No meconium staining of the amniotic fluid.

Apgar score of at least eight at five minutes.

42 Normal Controls