

Obstetric Forceps: A Species on the Brink of Extinction

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1. What is the operative vaginal delivery rate at your institution? What proportion of operative vaginal deliveries are forceps-assisted deliveries? On average, how many forceps deliveries do residents in your training program perform before graduating?
2. Identify the primary objective of the report. Describe the methods used by the authors to address this objective, and discuss alternative approaches to accomplish it.
3. Discuss whether or not you agree with the authors that current minimum training requirements are insufficient to ensure competency in forceps delivery.
4. The authors declare that “...in the case of forceps, there is no equivalent to the slide rule’s calculator.” Discuss whether or not you agree with this statement.
5. Outline your design of a study to determine whether vacuum delivery can effectively replace a forceps delivery. Identify the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists’ current position regarding the indications for forceps delivery vs. vacuum delivery.
6. Describe the solutions proposed by the authors to address the potential extinction of obstetric forceps. Discuss any additional solutions not presented by the authors.
7. Describe the similarities and differences between the authors’ approach to answer their objective and the approach of a systematic review.
8. The authors suggest a high-fidelity simulation model for training in forceps delivery. Discuss the advantages or disadvantages of simulation. How would you evaluate the success of such an approach?