

# When we were very young

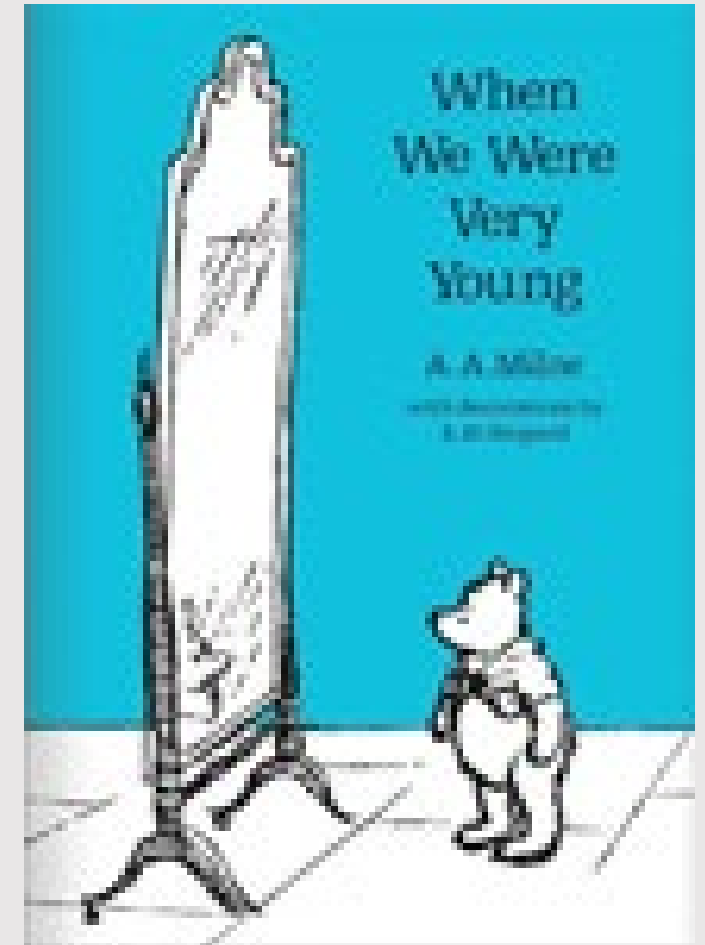
PERISTAT mostly before it became

EURO-PERISTAT

... EARLY DAYS

Prepared by Sophie Alexander and Béatrice

Blanchard, ECER, EUCOM, July 2000



# Perinatal statistics was an exciting topic

New concepts, new concerns and new words

1. Perinatal
2. Health statistics / population based
3. Questioning the « new obstetrics » / where's the evidence?
4. International comparisons / Europe

# PERINATAL

- In PubMed The term « Perinatal » appears the 1st time in 1945
- Allows to think of the « continuum »
- Very rapidly becomes popular (> 1000 refs/ year)



Source: <https://www.relainstitute.com/blog/the-importance-of-perinatal-care>  
Tamil Nadu



# Health Statistics / population based

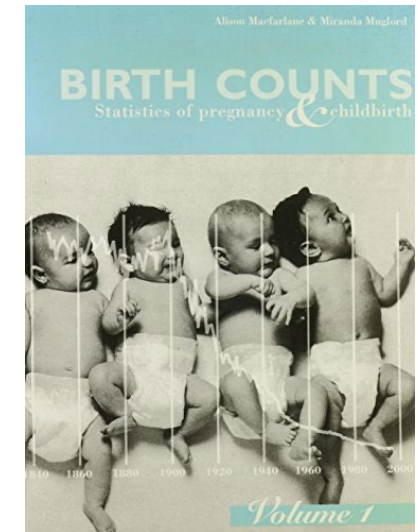


REGISTER OF CASES.									
No.	Name and Address	Age	Sex	Occupation	Married	Children	Birth Date	Birth Place	Remarks
101	Mr. John Karras Chicago	40	M	Physician	Yes	3	May 28	Sweden	Good well
102	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well
103	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well
104	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well
105	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well
106	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well
107	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well
108	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well
109	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well
110	Mr. Hagen Chicago	35	M	Farmer	Yes	2	June 10	Sweden	Good well

## Socioeconomic Differences in Fetal and Infant Mortality in Scandinavia

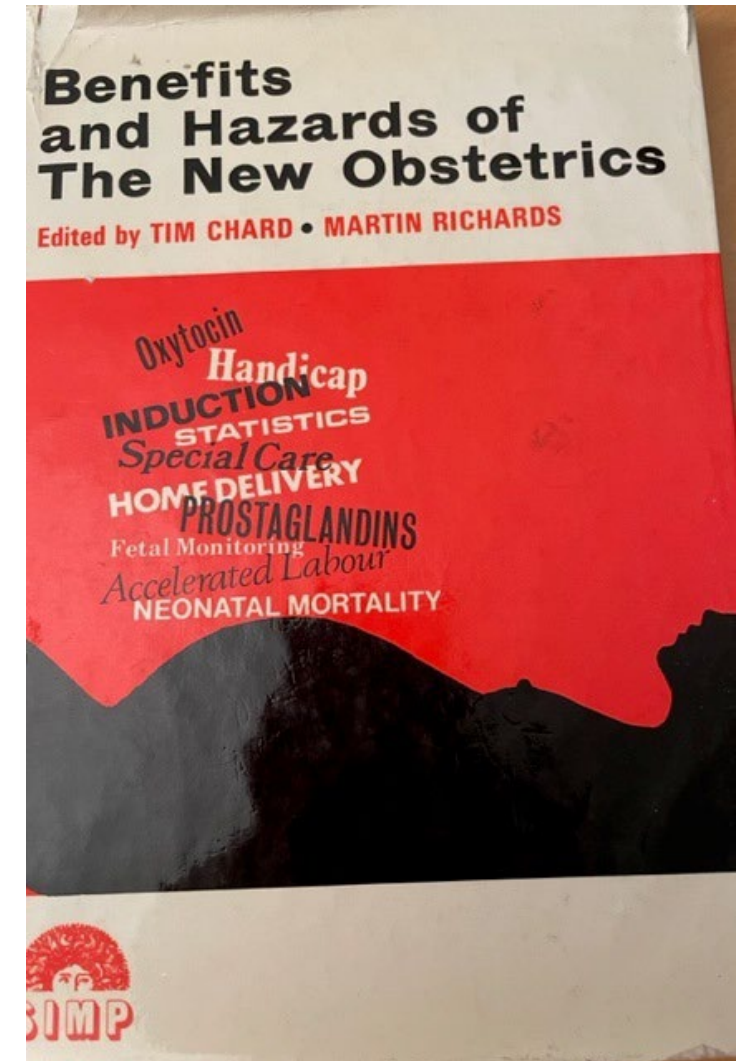
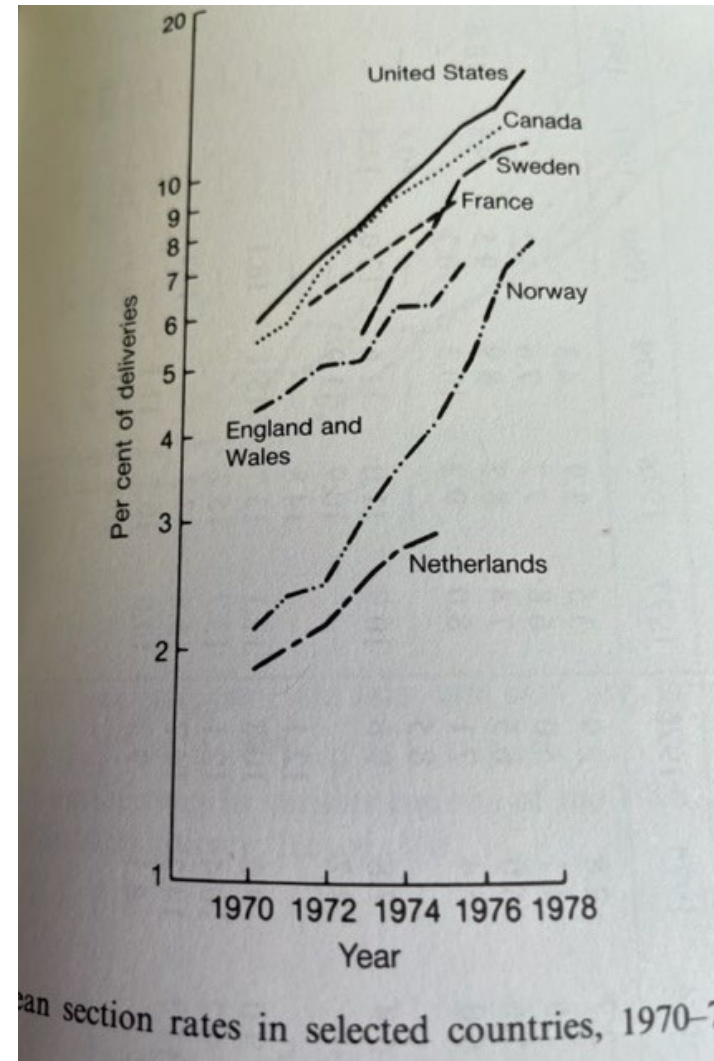
LEIV S. BAKKETEIG, SVEN CNATTINGIUS,  
and LISBETH B. KNUDSEN

**A**T the beginning of this century infant mortality rates in Scandinavia were between 50 and 100 per 1000, and the mortality rates varied between different socioeconomic groups. Particularly postneonatal mortality was manifold higher in low income families, but differences in survival also existed in the neonatal period (1). Since then a nearly tenfold decrease in infant mortality





the « new  
obstetrics » /  
where's the  
evidence?





# International comparisons / Europe



**1958**

Treaty of Rome: EEC 6 founding countries already in the European Steel and Coal Community of 1949: CECA:

- Belgium, Italy, France, GFR, Luxemburg, Netherlands

**1981**

Greece joins / 1985

**1990**

GDR joins (fall of the Eastern block in 1989 and reunified Germany)



Denmark, Ireland, UK join

**1973**

Portugal and Spain join

**1986**

Austria, Finland, Sweden join

**1995**

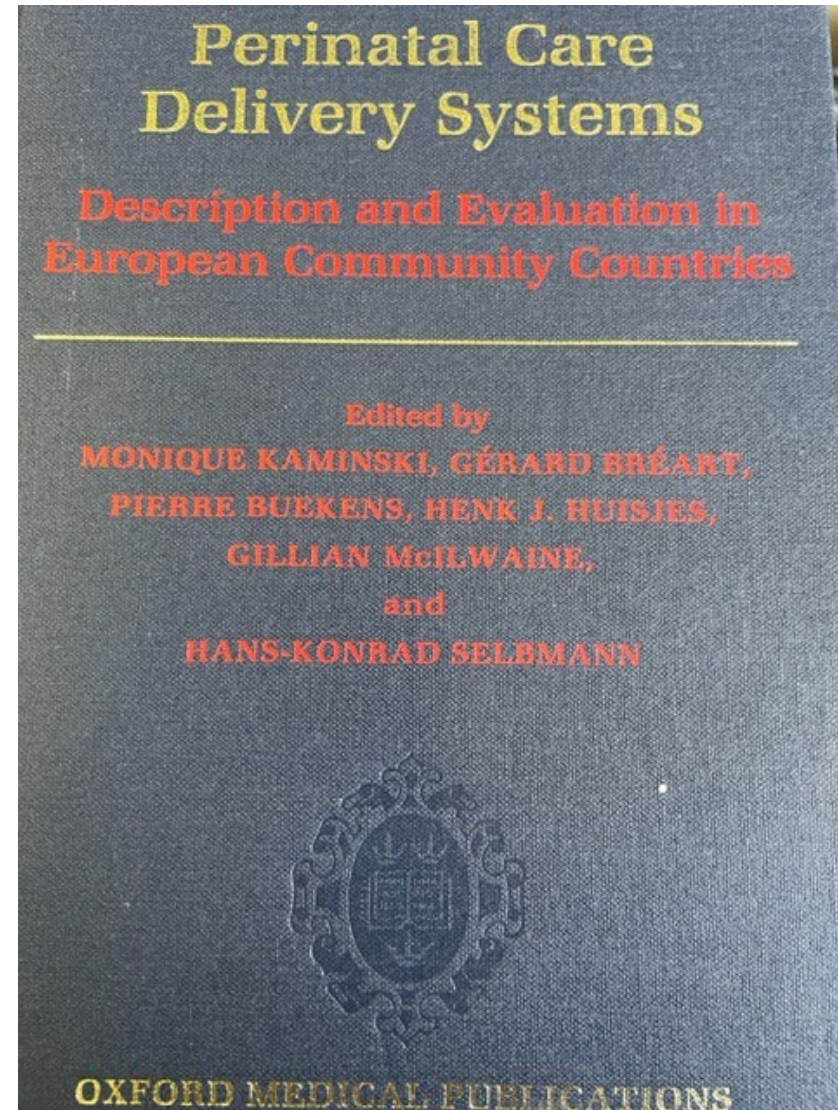




1<sup>st</sup> meeting in Paris  
in 2001  
1<sup>st</sup> deliverable in  
2003



# Founding fathers



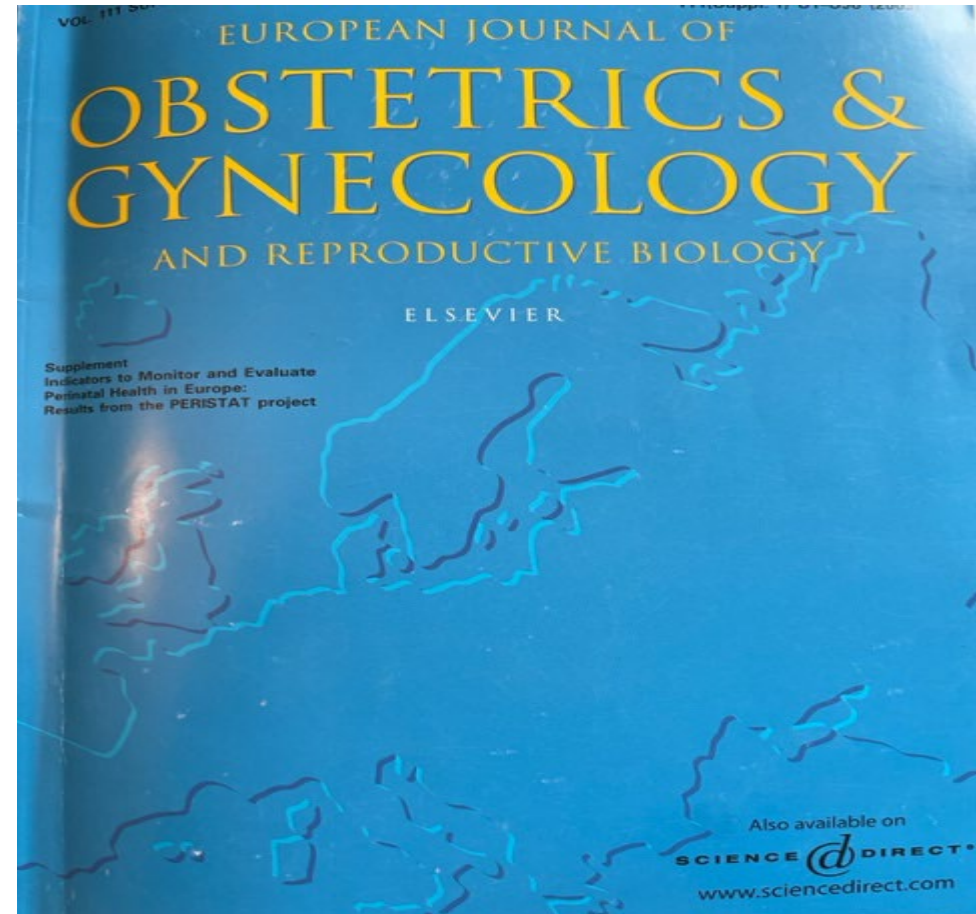
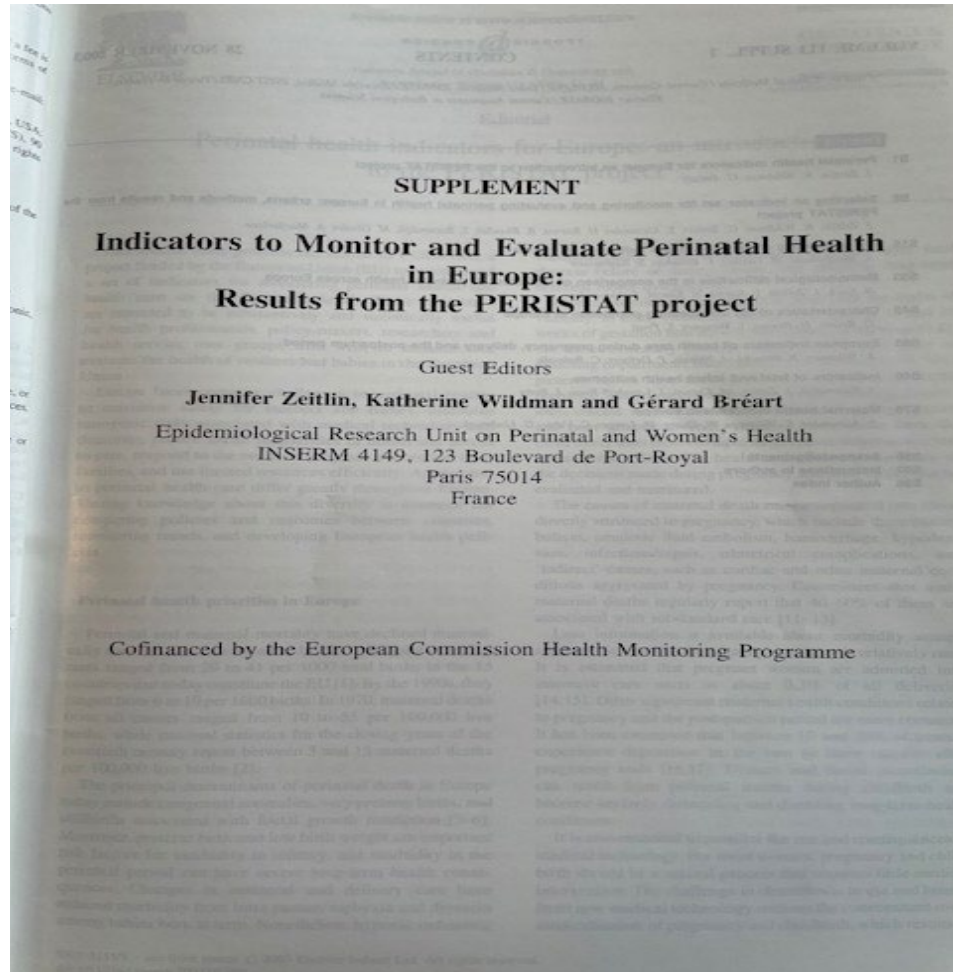


# Founding fathers ...

- **Gérard Bréart**
- **Director INSERM perinatal unit (now EPOPE)**
- **Co-promotor / promotor of European concerted actions on perinatal care (DG Research): management of labour with or without early ARM, with and without companionship in labour**



# First report



# Birth of PERISIAI : 1st meeting, 1st members, +1st authors

Austria: Martin Langer, Christian Vutuc

Belgium: Sophie Alexander, Paul Defoort, Wei-Hong Zhang

Denmark: Lone Krebs, Jens Langhoff-Roos, Steen Rasmussen

Finland: Mika Gissler, Marti Virtanen

France: Béatrice Blondel, Gérard Bréart, Jean-Bernard Gouyon, Katherine Wildman, Jennifer Zeitlin,

Germany: Nicholas Lack, Wolfgang Kunzel

Greece: Chryssa Bakoula, Nikolaos Vitoratos

Ireland: Anthony Staines

Italy: Marina Cuttini, Sabrina Prati,

Luxemburg: Jean Bottu, Yolande Wagener

Netherlands: Simone Buitendijk, Jan Nijhuis

Portugal: Henrique Barros, Nuno Montenegro

Spain: Francisco Bolumar, , Francisco (?) Morcillo

Sweden: Gunilla Lindmark, Sven Cnattingius

UK: Alison Macfarlane, S Marchant, M Newburn

Ob-gyn: 10; Paeds or child health: 8; Epid Pub Hl Stat: 17

# Narrative

We were a happy group,

We enjoyed the work,

We did our best,

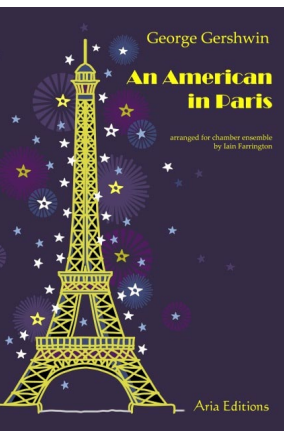
We delivered real stuff,

We felt valued,

We got on well,

And, in addition, we had not “an American in Paris”, but two Americans in Paris (Jenny and Katherine), and that was part of the magic,

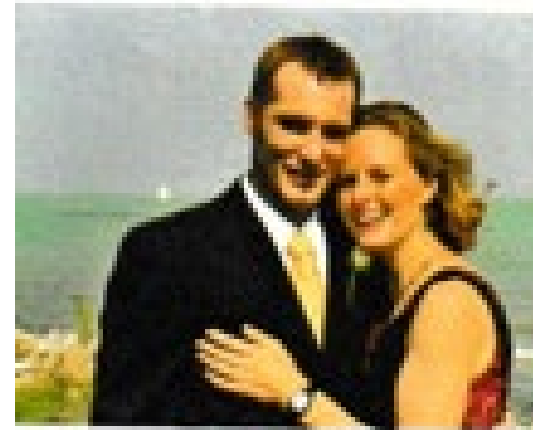
And then something terrible happened





**Katherine Ann Wildman**  
*December 4, 1967 to November 24, 2003*

---







# Narrative (continued)

- And Jenny picked up the pieces  
Patiently  
Kindly  
Efficiently
- And we had no more funding  
And Stéphane (Jenny's husband) was posted in  
Warsaw and other places ...

But the impetus was there  
PERISTAT became EURO-PERISTAT  
New countries joined  
New people joined  
New ideas are shared  
And work continues  
SEE next slides

# At and after birth of PERISTAT

- First members
  - Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands Portugal, UK, Spain, Sweden
- Additions and no subtraction ( $15 + 10 + 2 + 1 + 3 = 31$ )
  - Joined EU and EURO-PERISTAT: Czech rep, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, (2004) Bulgaria, Romania (2007) Croatia (2013)
  - Exit EU (2017 – 2020) but still in PERISTAT: UK
  - Non EU in EURO-PERISTAT: Iceland, Norway, Switzerland



WORKING





**WORKING** (CONTINUED)





Dance and music





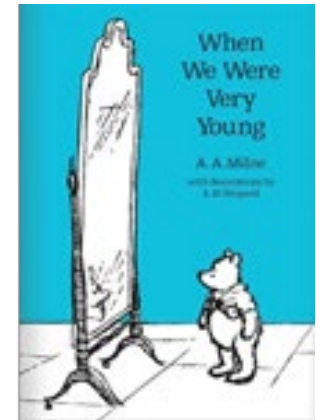
Bratislava, La Valette,  
London



# Changes occurred in the quarter of a century of PERISTAT

- From 15 countries to 31
- Ratio of clinicians to non-clinicians decreased
- From aggregate data to individual data
- Managing COVID data

....



# And other characteristics remain

- The focus on understanding
- The focus on dialogue with policy makers
- The focus on quality and comparability of data
- The inclusion of social determinants
- Collaboration with other groups
- The capacity to find solutions (thank-you Jan for getting us to beautiful Rolduc a second time)

