Appendix 1 (as supplied by the authors): Algorithm used to estimate gestational age

Briefly, when gestational age was missing in the Med Echo hospital data, we looked at diagnostic and procedure codes related to a pregnancy occurring within 70 days before the diagnosis of the SA identified in the RAMQ medical data. This cut off was chosen given that after a pregnancy is recognized, the first prenatal visit generally occurs within gestational weeks 8 to 12 (56 to 84 days)[1.]

If a diagnostic or a procedure code related to a pregnancy was identified during this period, we estimated gestational age based on the following equation:

Gestational age (in weeks) = 12 + (number of days between the calendar date of the SA – calendar date of the diagnostic or procedure code related to a pregnancy)/7). In the event that the only diagnostic or a procedure code related to a pregnancy occurred on the day of the SA, we estimated that gestational age was equal to 22 weeks given that after this cut off, the foetus is considered viable[2]

References

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