Background and Purpose Serum neurofilament light chain (sNfL) has recently emerged as a promising biomarker reflecting structural neuro-axonal damage in different neurological diseases. Our study aimed at assessing whether sNfL can predict the functional outcome in preterm infants who suffered from neonatal haemorrhagic brain injury.

Methods In this prospective observational study, we used an ultrasensitive single-molecule array assay to measure serum and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) concentrations of NfL in preterm infants diagnosed with intraventricular haemorrhage (IVH) in the first few days of life. We determined the temporal profile of serum and CSF NfL levels from first diagnosis of IVH until term equivalent age, their association with cerebral imaging markers, and with clinical and functional outcome until 2 years of age assessed by Bayley Scales of Infant Development. We fitted univariable and multivariable logistic regression models to determine risk factors for low motor and cognitive development. Longitudinal mixed effects models modelled NfL levels using cubic spline smoothers to track the trajectory over time.

Results The study included 48 infants born with less than 32 weeks of gestation. At the time point of IVH diagnosis, NfL median levels were 271.9 pg/mL (IQR 151.2–389.7), and strongly decreased until term equivalent age to 15.7 pg/mL (IQR 11.1–32.2). CSF values were 113-fold higher (IQR 40–211) than corresponding serum values. Additional cerebral infarction (n=23) but not post-haemorrhagic hydrocephalus with permanent external ventricular drainage (n=29) or other diseases independently determined sNfL levels. In multivariate logistic regression models, the only significant predictor of poor motor outcome at 2 years or death was sNfL level (p=0.02). There was a clear difference between the NfL trajectory for those with poor motor outcome at 1 year.

Conclusions This study shows that early sNfL is an independent prognostic biomarker for motor functional outcome in preterm infants after IVH.

Disclosure(s) Nothing to disclose

Methods Pubmed and Embase (01/01/1997–31/12/2017) were searched for drug trials in pregnant women with diabetes, HIV infection or hypertension. Titles and abstracts were screened, followed by a full text review of eligible articles. Inclusion criteria were interventional clinical trials in pregnant women treated with chronic medication and full text in English. Trial characteristics, maternal and offspring data were extracted. Data was summarised by disease and study. Twelve key items were considered for the offspring. The protocol was registered on PROSPERO (CRD42017057024).

Results Overall, 196 articles reporting 132 clinical trials (diabetes n=55; HIV n=59; hypertension n=18) were included. The number of births were frequently not reported (diabetes 40%; HIV 24%; hypertension 56%). Congenital malformations were infrequently reported with sufficient detail (diabetes 27%; HIV 34%; hypertension 6%). Similar observations were made for other key items (e.g. foetal losses, neonatal deaths, birth weight corrected for gestational age).

Conclusions Underreporting of key data for the offspring was frequent in publications of clinical trials in pregnant women with diabetes, HIV infection or hypertension making the assessment of the benefit-risk ratio of treatment options during pregnancy difficult.

Disclosure(s) Nothing to disclose

Background Protocol development for neonatal or paediatric clinical trials needs to take into account the age group specific characteristics of the study population (e.g. pharmacokinetics, reference values for laboratory data and vital signs). Drug safety and risk management for neonatal/paediatric trials require an understanding of how these change throughout childhood. We were interested in reviewing and summarising the literature to identify publications which provide researchers with practical information on the neonatal/paediatric drug safety profile informs age group specific safety data collection and risk management in the protocol.

Methods Pubmed, Embase and regulatory authority (RA) websites were searched for publications up to 31/12/2018 for children (0–18 years). In addition, the bibliography of included publications was reviewed to identify additional publications.

Results RA websites provided general and disease specific guidance on neonatal/paediatric clinical trials with sections relating to drug safety. No publication was identified describing the practicalities of how the neonatal/paediatric drug safety profile can be included throughout the various sections of a clinical trial protocol. The existing literature was summarised providing an overview of how the neonatal/paediatric drug safety profile supports the development of the various protocol sections. For example laboratory values in the exclusion criteria and safety monitoring sections need to be adjusted for age. Vital sign and psychomotor assessment should be done at least at baseline, trial completion and follow-up. Monitoring of