

# How does hospital organisation influence the use of caesarean sections in low- and middle-income countries?

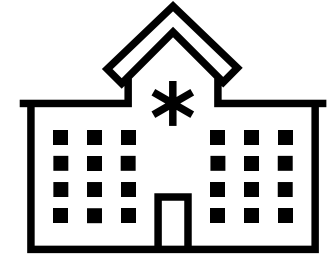
## A cross-sectional survey in Argentina, Burkina Faso, Thailand and Vietnam for the QUALI-DEC project

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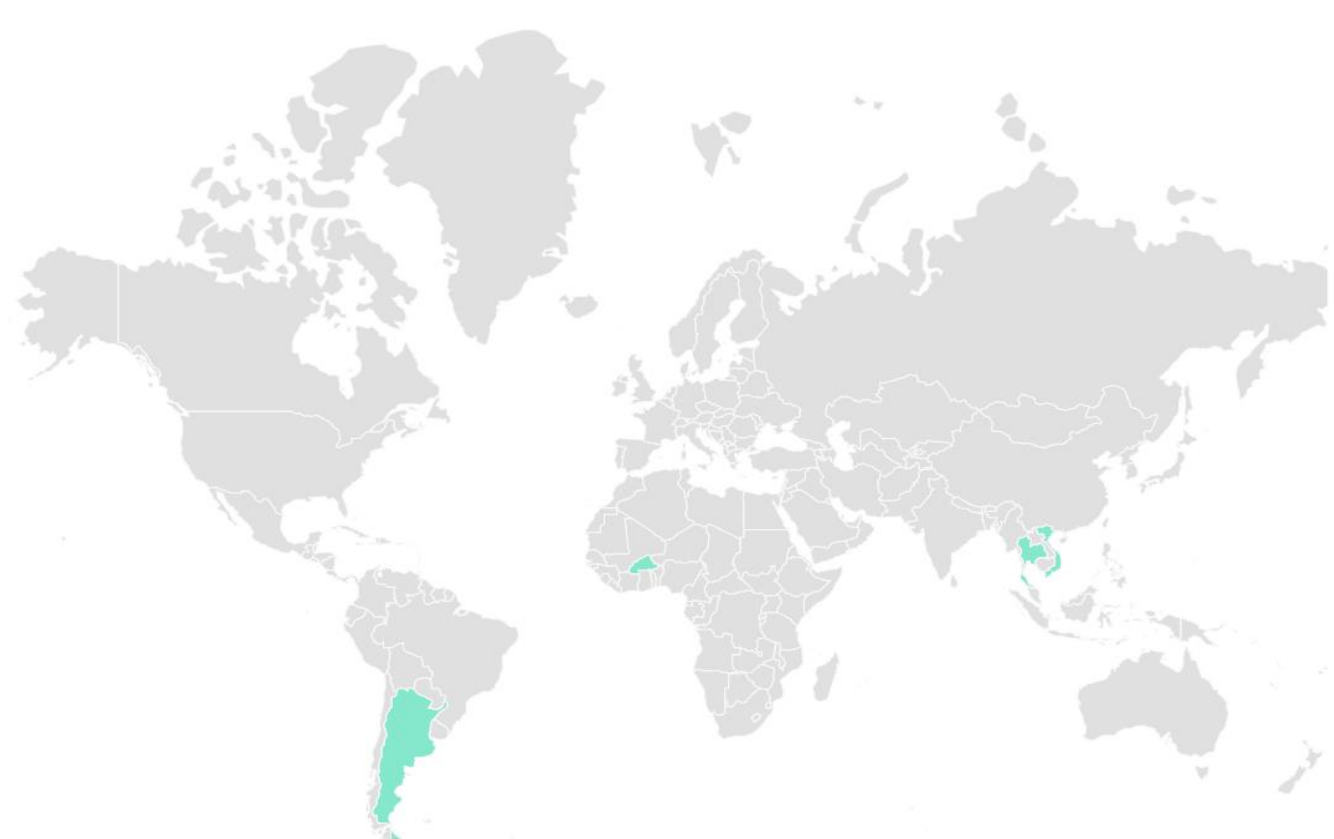


## 1. Background

### Why study hospital organization?

There is a need to improve our understanding of non-clinical factors leading to increasing CS use in many low and middle-income countries (LMICs).

In the participating hospitals, despite high CS rates, there is still variability in the observed rates (Figure 1). As organizational factors are likely to contribute to the increasing CS use and potentially suitable for change, a better understanding of these factors may help to develop strategies that support the reduction of unnecessary CSs in LMICs.



## 2. Objective

To assess the influence of organizational factors on CS use among low-risk women in the study settings

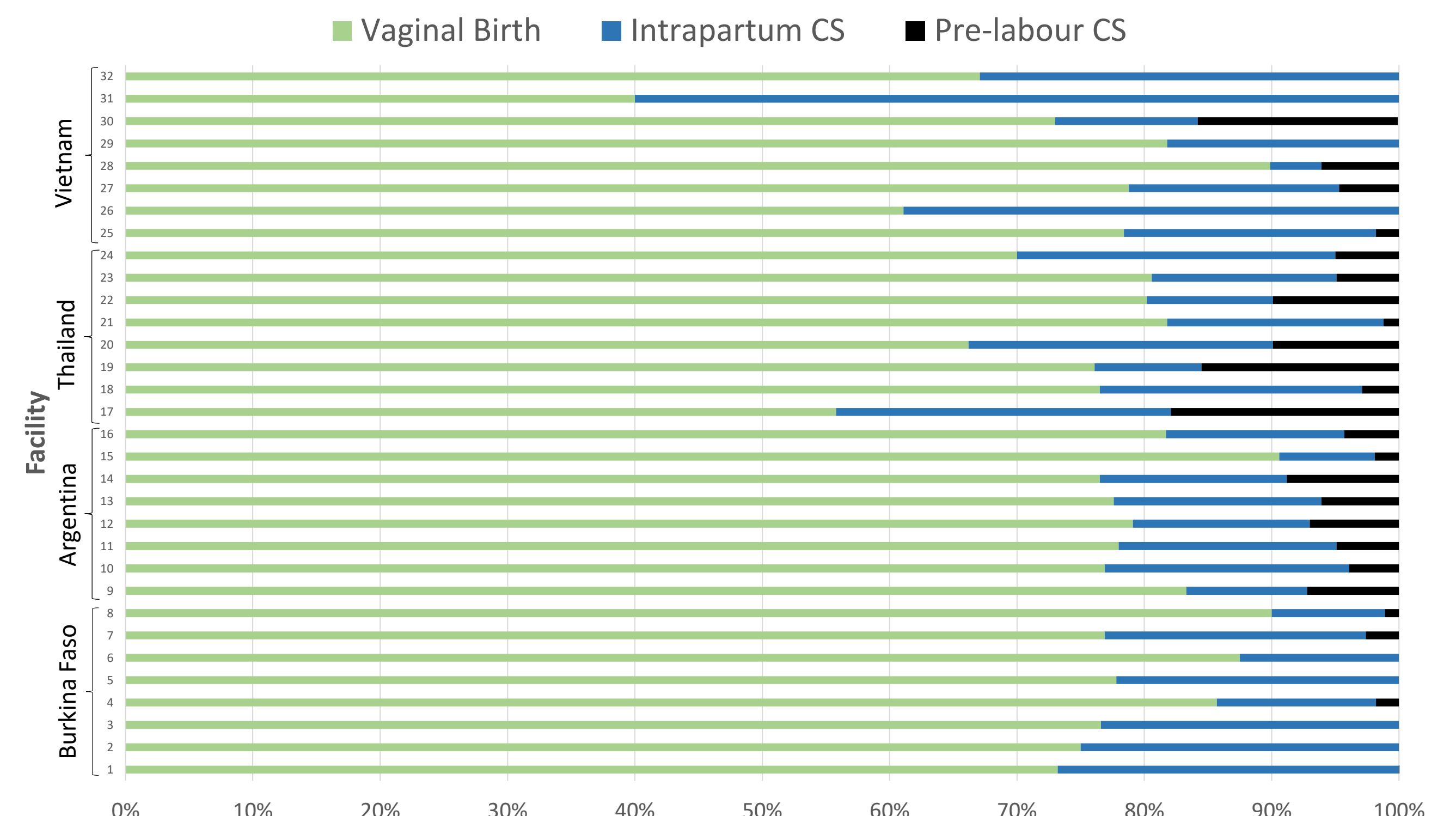
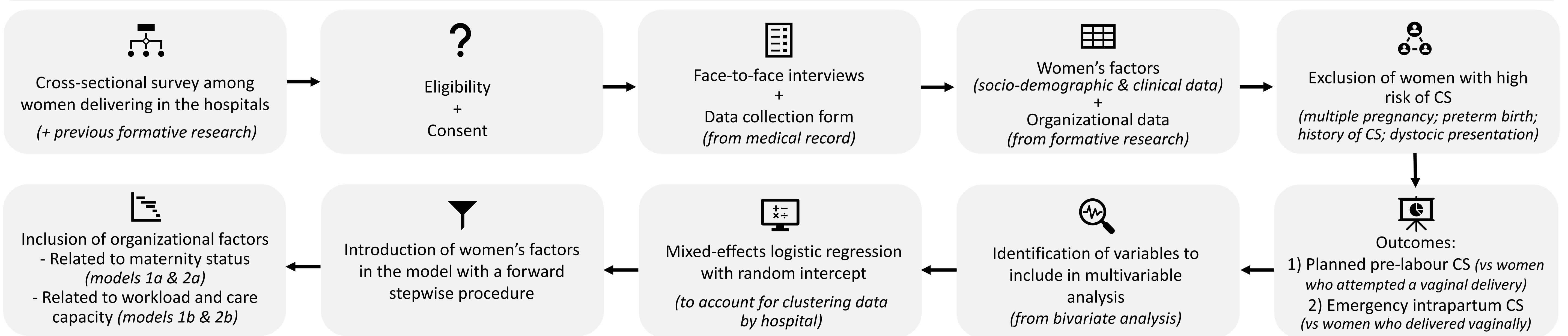


Figure 1: Mode of delivery in low-risk women in the 32 participating hospitals of the QUALI-DEC project (n=2,092)

## 3. Material & Methods



## 4. Results

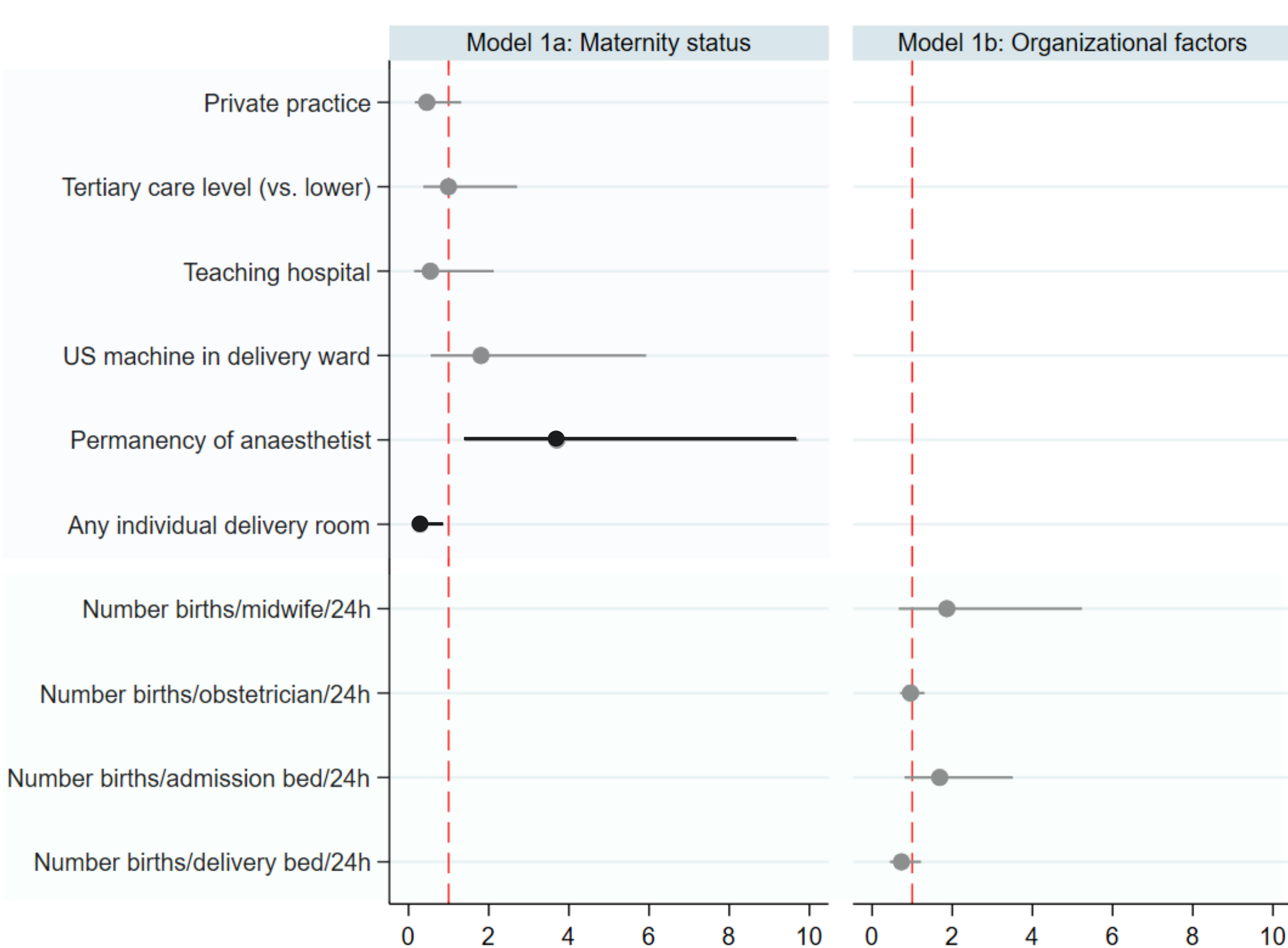


Figure 2: Odds Ratios for having a pre-labour CS according to maternity status (1a) or organizational factors (1b), adjusted on women's characteristics

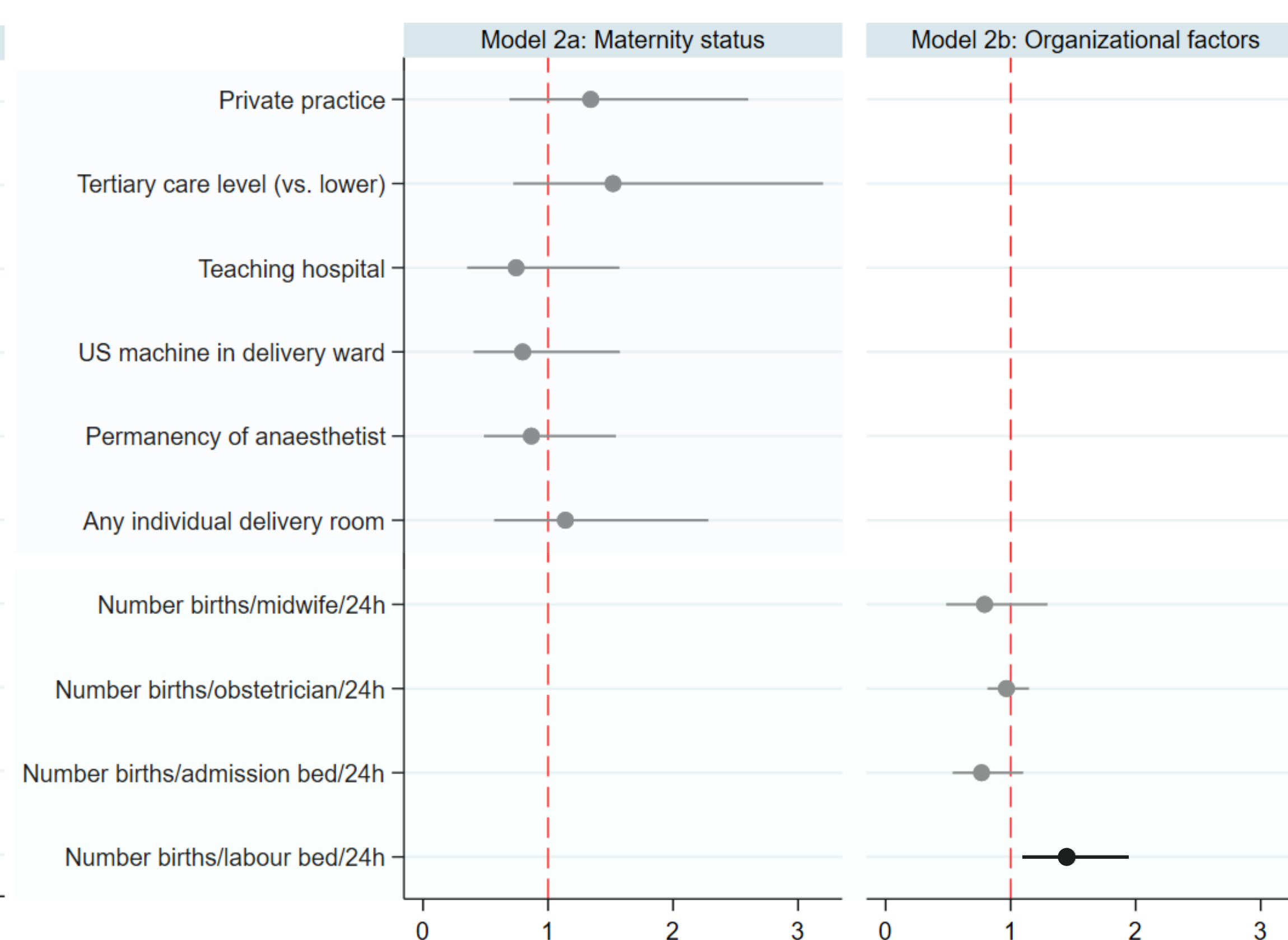


Figure 3: Odds Ratios for having an intrapartum CS according to maternity status (2a) or organizational factors (2b), adjusted on women's characteristics

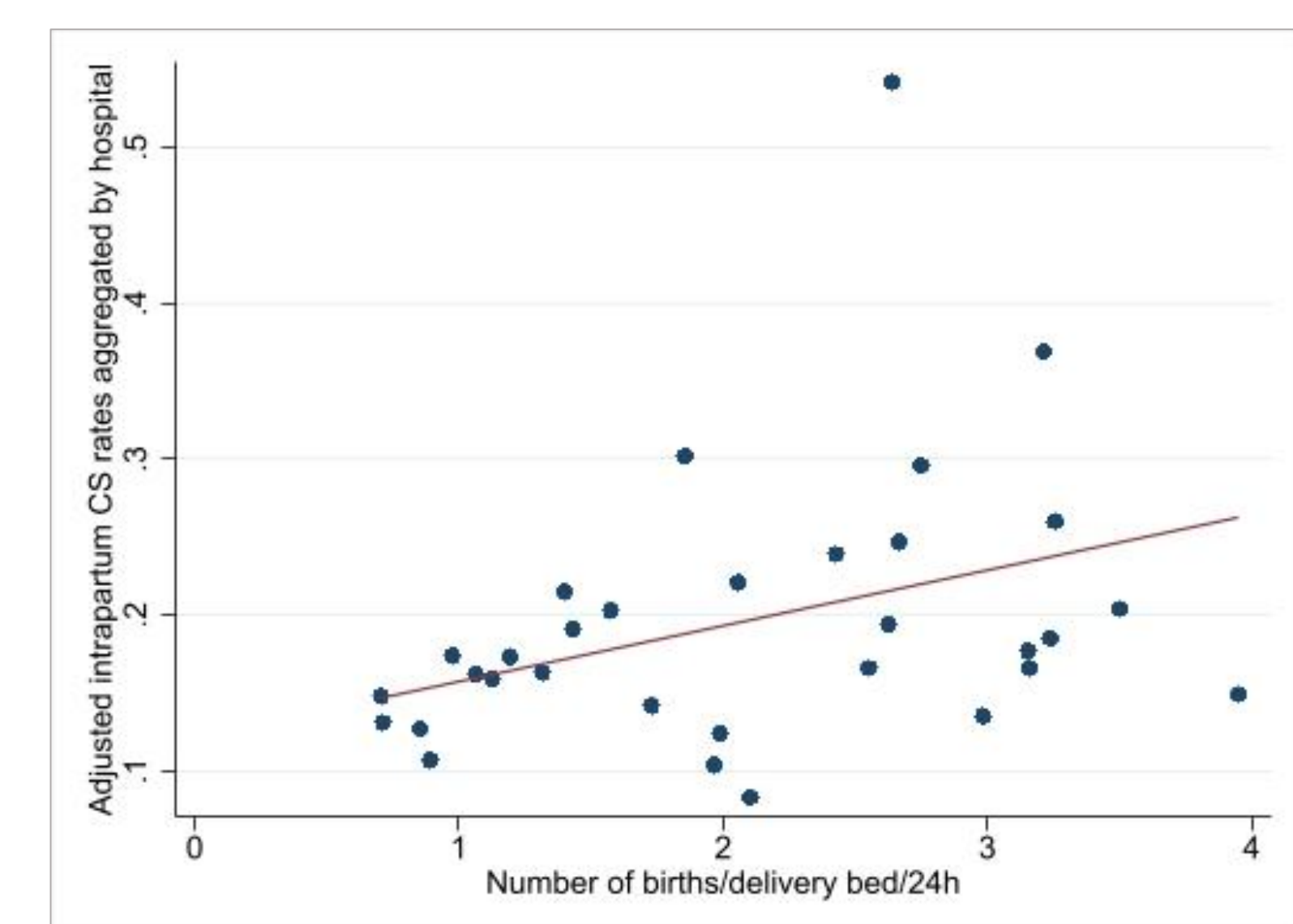


Figure 4: Relation between intrapartum CS use and bed occupancy

## 5. Discussion & Conclusion

The participating hospitals displayed high rates of CS among low-risk women

The availability of anaesthetists dedicated to the maternity and the lack of individual delivery rooms increased pre-labour CS use

Intra-partum CSs increased when delivery bed occupancy increased as well

It is crucial to enhance hospitals' resources and organisation of intrapartum care to improve birth experience and working environment for those providing care



Picture taken in the birth waiting room of Hùng Vương hospital, Ho Chi Minh city (Quali-Dec)