

Anesthetic complications	Include aspiration, a lung infection, failed intubation, high spinal or epidural anesthetic.
Cardiac arrest	No detectable major pulse. The heart stopped pumping.
Cerebrovascular event	Encompasses a range of conditions affecting blood vessels in the brain. These conditions can include strokes, cerebral/cerebellar hemorrhages, infarction (tissue death), subarachnoid hemorrhage (bleeding between the brain and the surrounding membrane), dural venous sinus thrombosis (clotting in the veins that drain blood from the vein).
Coma	A lengthy deep state of unconsciousness. People in a state of coma are alive but are unable to move.
Eclampsia	A serious condition that occurs during pregnancy, causing convulsions/seizures associated with high blood pressure. It poses significant risks to the mother's health and requires immediate medical attention.
Intensive or coronary care unit	A unit that is equipped to provide the highest level of critical care including ventilation to adult patients.
Liver dysfunction	The liver loses its ability to function normally.
Maternal Characteristics	Several variables that can influence maternal morbidity including the age, parity, BMI, ethnicity, employment status of the mother.
Maternal Morbidity	A wide range of health conditions which may result during pregnancy, delivery, or in the puerperium.
Postpartum hemorrhage (PPH)	Blood loss greater or equal to 500 mls. This can be called 'primary' (within the first 24 hours postpartum); or secondary (occurring after 24 hours or within 42 days of pregnancy end).
Peripartum hysterectomy	The surgical removal of the uterus (womb) at the time of birth or in the postnatal period.
Placenta Accreta Spectrum (PAS)	Formerly referred to as 'morbidly adherent placenta' is a broad term that is used to indicate the abnormal attachment of the placenta to the uterine wall.
Placenta Previa	Placenta previa or 'low-lying placenta' is a condition that occurs in term pregnancies. The placenta partially or completely covers the cervix, blocking the baby's path for delivery. This condition can cause extensive bleeding and may require medical intervention.
Placental Abruption	All or part of the placenta separates from the womb (uterus) before delivery. The abruption can cause pain and

## Severe Maternal Morbidity Audit Glossary

	Clossaly
	bleeding, and potentially decrease the baby's oxygen and nutrient supply
Pre-eclampsia  Pulmonary Embolism	A condition that typically begins after 20+ weeks of pregnancy. It is characterized by high blood pressure and is sometimes referred to as a hypertensive disorder. Being in a pre-eclamptic state can result in damage to organs such as the liver and kidneys. It can lead to complications for both the mother and baby if left untreated and, in severe cases, can progress to eclampsia.  A life-threatening condition that occurs during pregnancy
	or childbirth when a blood clot forms in the lungs, obstructing blood flow. It can lead to severe complications for the mother.
Pulmonary Oedema	Fluid accumulates in the lungs, making it difficult to breathe properly. It can potentially result from factors such as pre-eclampsia, heart problems, or fluid overload, and it requires medical attention to ensure the well-being of the mother.
Renal Dysfunction	A problem with the kidneys which affects their ability to filter waste and excess fluids from the body.
Septicemic Shock	A life-threatening condition where a severe infection spreads throughout the body, causing dangerously low blood pressure, organ dysfunction, and can lead to death if not treated urgently.
Severe Maternal Morbidity	The Severe maternal morbidities that are assessed by the NPEC are characterized by organ dysfunction morbidities. The most common of these morbidities include major obstetric hemorrhage; renal or liver dysfunction; peripartum hysterectomy; pulmonary embolism; septicemic shock; eclampsia; acute respiratory dysfunction; and uterine rupture.
Status Epilepticus	A Constant or near constant state of seizures that last 30 mins or more.
<b>Uterine Rupture</b>	When the wall of the uterus tears during pregnancy or labour, potentially causing severe bleeding and endangering the life of the mother and baby. It is a rare but serious complication that requires emergency medical intervention.

