Dear GONet member,

In this newsletter we want you to know about the COPOP project: Defining Core Outcomes For Studies On Prevention Of Preterm Birth. A collaboration with CROWN (Core Outcomes in Women’s Health) and planned pessary trials (see newsletter March 2014).

**Background:** It is important that RCTs and systematic reviews measure end points that are relevant and meaningful to patients, clinicians, and health service providers alike. A recently published systematic review provided insight regarding the use of common primary outcomes in randomised controlled trials and systematic reviews of preventative interventions for preterm birth. The analysis included 103 RCT’s in which 72 different primary outcomes were used. The authors concluded that there is lack of consistency in the choice and definitions of primary outcomes in clinical research and that core outcome sets needs to be developed.

**Objective:** The development of core outcome sets for studies focusing on prevention of preterm birth in high risk women.

**Methods:** Important stakeholders (obstetricians, neonatologist, midwives, patients and researchers/journal editors) will be invited to participate in the process of identifying relevant outcomes. Subsequently, the selection of outcomes and quality assessment will be performed using a (online) survey according to a Delphi methodology. Finally, agreement on the core outcome sets will take place during a consensus meeting.

**You participation?** If you are one of the stakeholders listed above, we invite you to participate in the process of selection of outcomes and quality assessment using a (online) survey according to a three round Delphi methodology. Each survey will take about 10-15 minutes of your time. The survey will take place between the 2-3rd week of July and October 2014. Please let us know with a simple YES/NO replay to globalobstetricsnetwork@gmail.com if you are willing to cooperate. We appreciate your input.