

26 November 2025

Babies Born Alive Following Abortion

Since the start of offering abortions in the North, how many children have been born alive following an abortion per year and what are the procedures in place when this occurs.

Belfast Trust have had 8 babies born with signs of life since March 2020 after a termination of pregnancy for fetal abnormality.

Prior to parents consenting to a termination of pregnancy for medical reasons (TFMR) the consultant in fetal medicine would discuss the possibility of their baby being born with signs of life.

When a baby is born with signs of life following a TFMR the Coroner is informed and directs the medical staff in completing the Medical Certificate of Death (MCCD)

All babies are treated with dignity and respect and the families wishes are taken into consideration at this time.

The Childbirth and Loss Midwives and the wider clinical team provide physical and emotional support.

There is no policy or guidelines used which covers this situation.