

THE TIMING OF URINARY
CATHETER REMOVAL AFTER
CAESAREAN SECTION

WHY INSERT A CATHETER FOR C-SECTION?

- Emptying the bladder helps protect it from injury during surgery
- Emptying the bladder improves visualisation of the surgical field
- Central neuraxial blocks (spinal, epidural) can cause urinary retention and distension injuries

CATHETER COMPLICATIONS

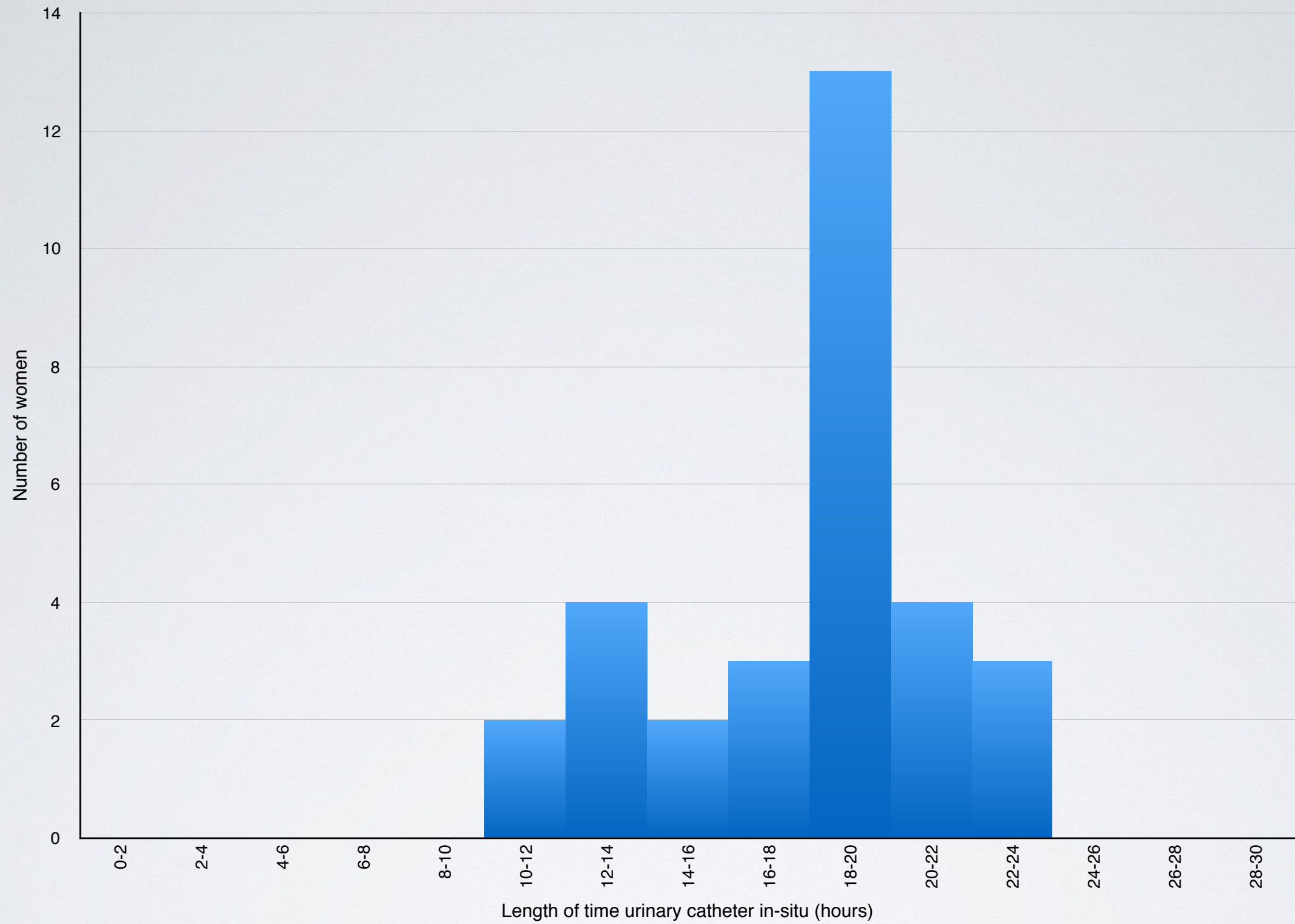
- Increased incidence of UTI
- Urethral pain
- Voiding difficulties following removal
- Delayed mobilisation
- Increased length of hospital stay

THE AUDIT

- Aim: To help inform best practice regarding the timing of urinary catheter removal after caesarean section
- 2 sets of data to present (both for low risk, elective cases)
 - Pre enhanced recovery - March 2014
 - Post enhanced recovery - December 2014

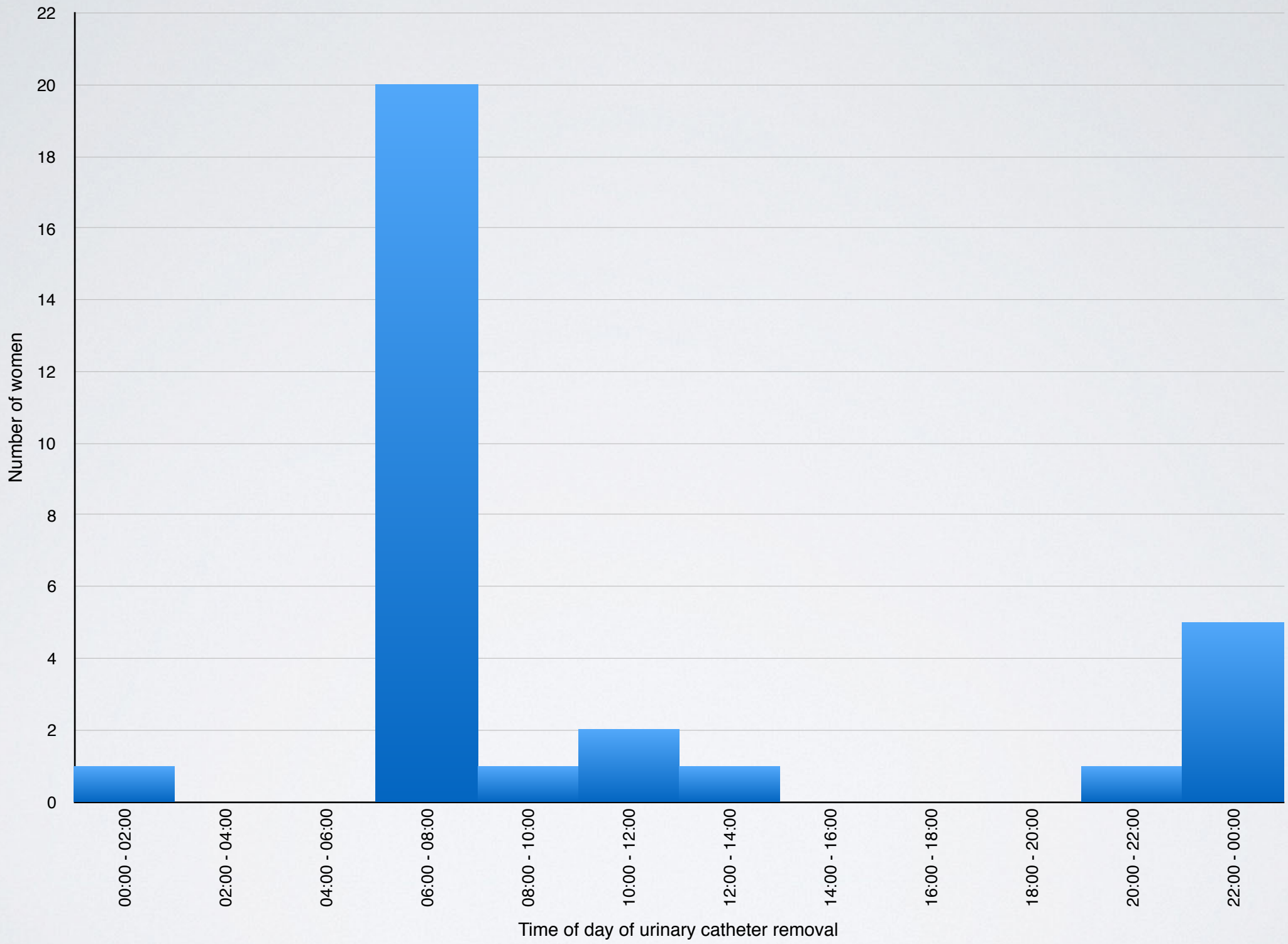
FIRST DATA SET

- Data collection from 4th March to 4th April
- Midwives to complete data collection form
- 42 women
- 31 (74%) women with complete data collection form



Mean 17.8, SD 3.5

Median 19.0, IQR 4.6 (15-19.6)

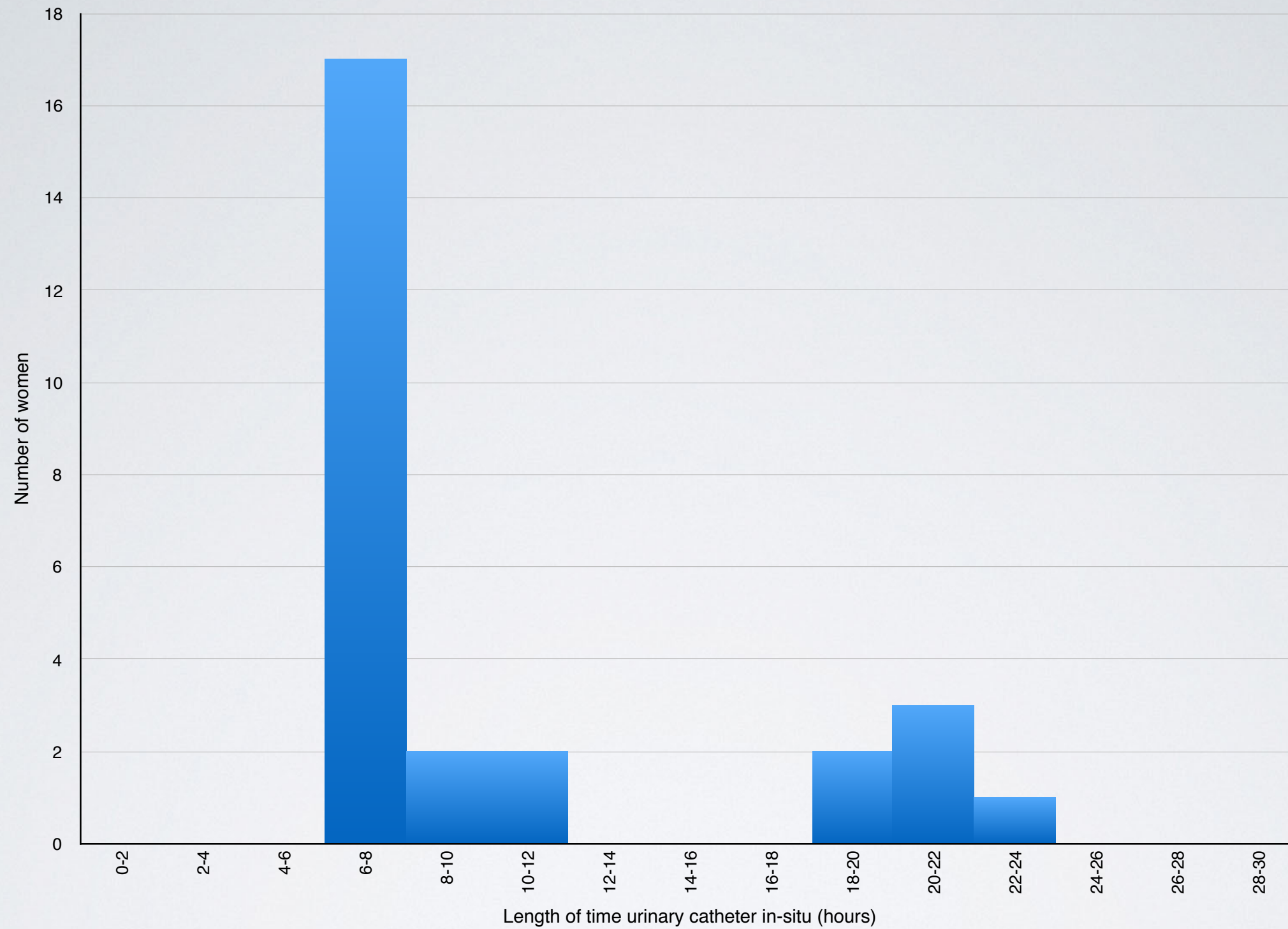


RECATHETRISATION

- 2 women
- Rate of 4.8% to 6.5% (optimistically)

SECOND DATA SET

- Data collection December 2014
- Data collection from the post-natal care plan
- 27 women



Mean 9.8, SD 5.7

Median 7.0, IQR 5.0 (6.0-11.0)

FIRST DATA SET VERSUS SECOND DATA SET

	First data set	Second data set
Mean	17.8	9.8
SD	3.5	5.7
Median	19	7
IQR	4.6	5

Introduction of the enhanced recovery program:

- Reduction in length of time urinary catheters in-situ
- Urinary catheters no longer simply removed at a convenient time

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

- Why aren't all women having their catheters removed at 6 hours as per the enhanced recovery program?
- Has the earlier removal of catheters led to a change in the rate of re-catheterisation?

WHY AREN'T ALL WOMEN HAVING THEIR CATHETERS REMOVED AT 6 HOURS AS PER THE ENHANCED RECOVERY PROGRAM?

- 8 women with catheter in-situ for more than 10 hours
 - 2 due to postpartum bleeding
 - 2 surmised due to postpartum bleeding
 - 2 due to women's request
 - 2 no clear reason

HAS THE EARLIER REMOVAL OF CATHETERS LED TO A CHANGE IN THE RATE OF RE-CATHETERISATION?

- 2 women
- Rate of 7.4% (compared to first data set of 4.8-6.5%)

CONCLUSIONS

- The introduction of the enhanced recovery program for low risk women undergoing caesarean section has led to a reduction in the length of time that urinary catheters are in-situ without increasing the need for re-catheterisation
- Note: Ongoing data collection is now underway to capture all women undergoing caesarean section, not just low risk, elective cases

ANY QUESTIONS?