Introduction: Retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) remains a leading cause of childhood blindness. Most countries have screening and treatment guidelines, but there are little data on incidence and current modalities of ROP treatment.

Methods: One year prospective active surveillance study of ROP treatment in the UK, starting on Dec 1, 2013. Case identification through the British Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit (BOSU) reporting system, which sends out a monthly report card to every consultant ophthalmologist in the UK (Fig 1). A special interest group (ROP SIG) was set up to facilitate information gathering. A report form (RF) identified anonymised demographic data, ROP stage at time of treatment, treatment method, location, and time to treatment from making the decision to treat.

Results (first 38 study weeks):
- 174 cases
- 94 male, 79 female
- 15/142 in vitro fertilisation babies
- 120/174 singletons
- mean gestational age 24.9 weeks (23-30)
- mean birthweight 728.4g (360-1375g)
- 118/172 white British (68.6%)
- 20/172 Asian/British Asian (11.6%)
- 5/172 Black/Black British (3.49%).

Conclusions:
- Initial findings suggest that the numbers of babies treated in the UK for ROP may be higher than previously reported (1,2).

References:
1. Haines et al 2005 Arch Dis Child 90:F240-4
2. Painter SL et al 2014 BJO Nov 26

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