A Scoping Review: Overview of Current Respectful Maternity Care Research by Research Approach and Study Location

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BACKGROUND

• Disrespectful care during childbirth:
  • contributes to poor health outcomes
  • perpetuates disparities
  • encourages childbirth outside of healthcare facilities
• The World Health Organization currently emphasizes the importance of Respectful Maternity Care in improving maternal health outcomes and reducing the global maternal mortality rate.1,2
• RMC research is a relatively new field of research that has continued to grow over the past two decades.
• Current research lacks organization. There is no summary of the various research approaches used to measure disrespectful care, or an analysis of whether these approaches identify the same types of mistreatment during childbirth.
• Most research has focused on low/low-middle income countries. There is growing evidence in countries such as the United States that Respectful Maternity Care is a global health concern.

OBJECTIVES

1) Summarize current research and research approaches that attempt to measure mistreatment during childbirth in order to analyze whether these approaches identify the same types of mistreatment
2) Identify gaps in current research analyzing disrespectful care during childbirth.

METHODS

• Following PRISMA guidelines, this review utilized search terms to filter articles from the Pubmed database.
• Using specific criteria, articles were then excluded by title and abstract, then full article review.
• Included articles were organized by research approach and analyzed for study location and the presence of 9 types of mistreatment.

INCLUDED ARTICLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Disrespectful Care</th>
<th>Research Approach</th>
<th>Contributing Articles</th>
<th>No. studies from research approach type</th>
<th>No. contributing studies from RCMC</th>
<th>Total Number of Studies/Total Number of Included Articles</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provider/Ashram Survey</td>
<td>0.3/0.5</td>
<td>198/116</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Patient Interview</td>
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RESULTS – APPROACH ANALYSIS

Included articles organized by research approach were analyzed for the presence of 9 types of mistreatment (adapted from Bohren 2015):
• Neglect and Abandonment
• Lack of Privacy/Confidentiality
• Lack of Informed Consent
• Verbal Mistreatment
• Emotional Mistreatment
• Physical Mistreatment
• Health System Constraints
• Stigma and Discrimination

Studies involving direct labor observations, surveys, focus groups, and interviews identified all 9 types of mistreatment.

REFERENCES


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