The Effect of Home-Visiting on Perinatal Depression

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Objective: While seemingly few interventions are in place to adequately treat maternal mental health disorders, women experiencing perinatal depression may benefit from the intervention of home visiting. The intent of home visiting is to alleviate stressors of new motherhood. Thus, the aim of this scoping review is to investigate existing literature of home visiting and its effects on perinatal depression, in an attempt to determine the relationship between these two factors. The presentation shares the results from the scoping review and describes the use of home visiting to improve perinatal mental health.

Methods: A scoping review of existing literature relevant to perinatal depression and home visiting was conducted. More than 50 keywords were entered in five search databases: PubMed, PsycInfo, Cinahl, Social Work Abstracts, and Google Scholar. All relevant literature was reviewed within the relevant time frame of 1997-2018. Duplicates, books, and errata were discarded from the study. Ninety-nine records underwent further analysis in abstract searching and 33 full-text articles were reviewed for eligibility. All applicable studies were included in this analysis.

Results: There were 12,646 records identified through database searching. After duplicates were discarded, the titles of 2,134 articles were assessed for applicability. Results concluded home visiting is a low-cost, highly transferable intervention that yields merit as a treatment plan for maternal mental health globally.
The Effect of Home-Visiting on Perinatal Depression: A Scoping Review

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BACKGROUND
Moms experiencing perinatal depression may benefit from the intervention of home visiting. A scoping review was begun by searching keywords and gathering relevant literature that lends to the relationship between home visiting and perinatal depression. The results concluded that home visiting can have a positive effect on maternal mental health.

METHODS
- A scoping review was conducted utilizing five search tools: PubMed, PsycINFO, Cinahl, Social Work Abstracts, and Google Scholar.
- All relevant literature was reviewed that was published on or prior to February 8th, 2018.
- Duplicates, books, and erratum’s were discarded from the study.
- Literature was reviewed and synthesized to determine the intervention’s effect.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS
Records identified through database search
(n = 12,646)
Records after duplicates removed
(n = 2134)
Records for full abstract search
(n = 99)
Full-text articles assessed for eligibility
(n = 33)

CONCLUSIONS
Home- visiting:
- has a positive effect or maternal mental health.
- could enhance usual care.
- may be a protective factor for maternal mental health disorders.
- is emerging as a treatment plan for maternal mental health globally.
- can be conducted by peers, global health workers, nurses, etc.
- is a low cost intervention that is transferable across settings.

STUDY AIM
To investigate existing literature of home visiting and its effects on perinatal depression in an attempt to determine the relationship between these two factors.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
Identifying Depression through Early Assessment (IDEA) Research Team

TYPES OF HOME-VISITORS
- Peer
- Trained Clinician
- Paraprofessional
- Midwife
- Researchers
- Trained Volunteers

STUDY DESIGN
- Randomized Control Trial
- Qualitative
- Mixed Methods
- Longitudinal