

Barriers and Facilitators in Maternal Health Care for Migrants: Scoping Review

Naboué Schaars¹

<https://orcid.org/0009-0008-0606-5020>

Ana Carmona²

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0301-2261>

¹Master's student in Maternal Health and Obstetric Nursing. Nursing School of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal.

²PhD, Assistant Professor at Nursing School of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal.

Introduction

Regarding the maternal health of migrant women, health results continue to fall short of what is intended. They describe several negative experiences, in a moment that should have been one of joy, as they had probably already experienced difficulties when traveling to another country, finding themselves vulnerable a priori.

Objective

Map scientific evidence on barriers and facilitators in maternal health care for migrant women.

Methods

The review was prepared in accordance with the JBI methodology guidelines, with a search in the databases, MEDLINE Ultimate, CINAHL Ultimate, MedicLatina, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, PubMed and Web of Science, using the descriptors women, migrants, healthcare and maternal health. No temporal or linguistic limits were used. 229 articles were obtained, and the sources of evidence were selected, with the support of the Covidence tool. As inclusion criteria, articles were considered in which 1st generation migrant women from the diaspora were studied in the context of maternal health, obtaining 11 articles from which the respective results were extracted.

Results

Barriers were found in terms of communication, mainly the language barrier; at the cultural level, since professionals are unaware of the characteristics of different cultures or do not accept them; on an emotional and psychosocial level; religious, due to not wanting to be treated by male professionals; and also, at a social level. In terms of facilitators, the following were found: the use of interpreters or bilingual professionals, the training of health professionals on different cultures, continuity of care, culturally competent and person-centered care, and the presence of a significant person.

Conclusion

The identification of barriers as well as the identification of facilitators of maternal health care for migrant women allows health professionals to raise awareness about their provision of care to these women, promoting continuous improvement.

Keywords

Barriers; Healthcare; Facilitators; Migrants; Women; Maternal Health.

References

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Corresponding author:

Naboué Schaars

E-mail: naboue.schaars@campus.essel.pt

