See Us, Understand Us. Examining Newcomer Women’s access and Utilization of Maternity Care in Canada: A Systematic Narrative Review

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INTRODUCTION

This systematic narrative review aims to present current knowledge about newcomer women’s maternity care experiences by highlighting barriers and facilitators of access and utilization.

METHOD: SYSTEMATIC NARRATIVE REVIEW

180 articles retrieved from (CINAHL, PubMed, Medline)

Title and abstract screening

Screened out (n=59)

Duplicates (n=9) Exclusion for not meet inclusion criteria (n=50)

Full text articles screened (n=121)

Full text articles screened out. Did not meet eligibility criteria (n=85)

Full text articles met eligibility (n=36)

Full text articles excluded (n=25) Lacking important data No relevant outcome reported Not specific to maternity care access & utilization

Full text articles included in review (n=11)

RESULTS

Summary of studies

Facilitators & Barriers to maternity care access & utilization

- Key Facilitators
- Empathetic professionals
- Use of interpreters
- Receiving information early
- Coordination of care by professionals

- Key Barriers
- Lack of social support and social isolation
- Finances, childcare & transportation issues
- Insensitivity of some providers
- Lack of knowledge & understanding of cultural & religious perinatal beliefs
- Communication & interpretation issues

CONCLUSION

- Newcomer women face multiple barriers than facilitators in accessing and utilizing maternity care services.
- As a result highlighting existing disparities, and indicating a need to prioritize and address the specific social determinants of newcomer women’s maternal health.

IMPLICATION

- Duration of residency in Canada affects maternity care experiences.
- Health professionals need to understand newcomer women’s pre and post migration experiences.
- Immigration categories may affect accessibility of maternity care services.

REFERENCES


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