Perinatal outcomes in pregnancies complicated by maternal cardiomyopathy: a letter

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It gives us great pleasure to read the systematic review and meta-analysis “Perinatal outcomes in pregnancies complicated by maternal cardiomyopathy: a systematic review and meta-analysis” by Eggleton et al\textsuperscript{1}. We appreciate the authors for conducting this meta-analysis on a large population of 2,291,024 women pooled from 13 primary studies. Communication strengthens knowledge and so we would like to point out certain observations which will help in further comprehending the results.

We appreciate the authors for conducting an extensive search of the published articles on cardiomyopathy during pregnancy. Various search engines (PubMed, Ovid Embase, Ovid MEDLINE, Cochrane Library and ClinicalTrial.gov) have been searched systematically. But we would like to inquire why different duration of search was assigned for different databases (For example, June 1, 1997 to August 25, 2022 for PubMed while January 1, 1974 to August 25, 2022 for Ovid Embase). The recent PRISMA flow diagram has included a third column to the right consisting of "Identification of studies via other methods" like citation searching\textsuperscript{2}. We are quite interested to know if any such articles were included in the review through manual citation searching besides the data obtained from search in the designated databases.

All the Forest plots have been so nicely designed and flawless. They have clearly depicted the intent of the study. Separate Forest plots have been constructed depicting the outcomes studied in this meta-analysis. According to the objectives mentioned in the study, preterm delivery, growth retardation, stillbirth and neonatal mortality have been extensively assessed and data shown by separate Forest plots. However, no statistical evaluation was done for the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) admissions (although it was one of the objectives mentioned). We will be obliged if you can share some data on this aspect as well.
It is highly appreciable that the authors have thought to explore this new area of research which needs great attention in modern day medicine. Better medical and obstetric care can strive to improve the outcomes in pregnancies complicated by cardiomyopathy through a multidisciplinary approach.

References:


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