

INTRODUCTION

Today, there is an increasing prevalence of migrant women across the world, particularly in Europe, which poses significant challenges to healthcare systems. The aim of this systematic review and meta-analysis was to investigate the risk of gestational diabetes among immigrant women compared to women native to the host country.

METHODS

We conducted a literature search on PubMed (including MEDLINE), Scopus, and Web of Science up to September 2020. We included all observational studies that examined the prevalence or risk of gestational diabetes among immigrants who crossed international borders, comparing them to native-origin pregnant populations.

We used the meta-prop method for pooled prevalence estimation and applied a random-effects model, following the DerSimonian and Laird model, to estimate the association between immigration status and gestational diabetes. We assessed heterogeneity using the I² statistic and evaluated publication bias using the Harbord test.

Additionally, we performed meta-regression to explore the impact of geographical regions as a potential source of heterogeneity.

