INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective: To evaluate the uptake of COVID-19 vaccination among pregnant persons.

Rationale: Pregnancy is an independent risk factor for severe COVID-19 illness. World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and professional organizations recommend COVID-19 vaccination in pregnant persons to prevent adverse outcomes. However, pregnancy decreases the acceptance rate of vaccination. Thus, the estimation of COVID-19 vaccine uptake among pregnant population is of great importance.

Condition being studied: Pregnant persons are susceptible to infectious diseases that increase adverse pregnancy outcomes. CDC recommends that pregnant women get the inactivated flu vaccine, the Tdap vaccine, and the recently introduced COVID-19 vaccine.

INPLASY registration number: This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 22 April 2023 and was last updated on 22 April 2023 (registration number INPLASY202340079).
vaccine, and the recently introduced COVID-19 vaccine.

METHODS

Search strategy: This systematic review is carried out in accordance to PRISMA guidelines. PubMed/Medline and CINAHL databases, and the Google Scholar search engine are screened from inception to 22 March 2023.

Search: Search: (((((("covid-19 vaccines"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("covid-19"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("SARS-CoV-2"[MeSH Terms])) OR ("coronavirus"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("covid-19 vaccine"[Title/Abstract])) OR ("covid-19 vaccination"[Title/Abstract])) OR ("coronavirus vaccination"[Title/Abstract])) AND (english[Filter] OR greekmodern[Filter])) AND ((("pregnancy"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("pregnant women"[MeSH Terms]) AND (english[Filter] OR greekmodern[Filter]))) AND ((("vaccination coverage"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("prevalence"[MeSH Terms]) OR ("vaccination status"[Title/Abstract])) OR ("immunization coverage"[Title/Abstract])) OR ("vaccine acceptance"[Title/Abstract]) AND (english[Filter] OR greekmodern[Filter])) Filters: English, Greek, Modern.

Participant or population: Pregnant persons independent of the semester of pregnancy.

Intervention: None.

Comparator: None.

Study designs to be included: Cross-sectional studies.

Eligibility criteria: English written, quantitative cross-sectional articles that report COVID-19 vaccine uptake in pregnant persons.

Information sources: PubMed/Medline and CINAHL databases, and the Google Scholar search engine. We also reviewed reference lists of identified articles to find other related articles.

Main outcome(s): COVID-19 vaccination uptake.

Data management: Data extraction form.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis:
The risk of bias assessment is being conducted according to the Joanna Briggs Institute critical appraisal tool.

Strategy of data synthesis: A data extraction form is used to collect the following information: author(s), year of publication, country of the study, study title, study design, study setting, participants' characteristics, sample size, COVID-19 vaccination, number of vaccine doses, COVID-19 vaccine type, outcome(s), and conclusion(s). A narrative synthesis is used to analyze studies included in this review. This approach synthesizes data from multiple sources and uses text to summarize and explain findings.

Subgroup analysis: None reported.

Sensitivity analysis: None reported.

Language restriction: English.

Country(ies) involved: Greece.

Keywords: pregnant persons; COVID-19; vaccination; uptake.

Contributions of each author:
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