Perinatal mental health provisions for birthing people impacted by the carceral state: a scoping review
Morgan Maner, MSC, Amanda Haberstroh, PhD, Karlene Cunningham, PhD

The Problem
- The United States incarcerates more people than any other country
- Incarcerated birthing persons face unique mental health barriers exacerbated by racial disparities
- This scoping review evaluates current literature on perinatal mental health provisions for criminal-legal system impacted (CLSI) birthing persons

RESULTS

- Records identified through database searching (n = 2219)
- Duplicates removed (n = 1018)
- Records screened (n = 1201)
- Records excluded (n = 1131)
- Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n = 66)
- Full-text articles excluded, with reasons (n = 32)
- Studies included in qualitative synthesis (n = 34)

Study Designs
- Book chapter
- Prevalence study
- Cohort study
- Commentary
- Review
- Qualitative research
- Cross sectional

Figure 4. PRISMA flowchart

IMPACT/LESSONS LEARNED

- Most studies do not discuss the mental health impact of the carceral environment (ex. shackling and solitary confinement)
- 25% of included studies do not identify type of carceral involvement in participants
- Only three studies discussed structural racism in the context of mass incarceration, despite known mental health impacts in racialized populations

Key References

METHODS

Search strategy
- JBI framework with PRISMA scoping review extension
- Full search strategy databases included MEDLINE (PubMed), Embase (Elsevier), PsycINFO (EBSCO), Cochran Library (CENTRAL), Scopus (Elsevier), SocINDEX (EBSCO), Sociological Abstracts (ProQuest) and CINAHL (EBSCO).
- Inclusion criteria:
  - 18 years and older
  - Based in United States
  - Pregnancy up to one year postpartum
  - Addresses PMAD and/or SUD
  - Discussion of health equity
  - CLSI birthing persons included

Data collection & analysis
- Data held and analyzed using Covidence
- Two-cycle screening process

Figure 1. Equity/DEI frameworks used in included articles

Figure 2. Equity/DEI frameworks used in included articles

Figure 3. Study designs of included articles

Question
- Population: CLSI birthing persons
- Concept: Perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (PMAD) and substance use disorder (SUD)
- Context: Research publications and text/opinions published within the last 41 years (1980-2023)