# Perspectives of pregnant asylum-seeking women on implementation of a screening tool for anxiety, depression and PTSD

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This study aims to identify what the most suitable and acceptable method is to create space to discuss psychiatric disorders symptoms in pregnant asylum seekers.

**Ethical review** Approved WMO **Status** Recruitment stopped

Health condition type Pregnancy, labour, delivery and postpartum conditions

**Study type** Observational invasive

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON50005

#### Source

ToetsingOnline

#### **Brief title**

Screening for psychiatric complaints among pregnant asylum seekers

#### **Condition**

- Pregnancy, labour, delivery and postpartum conditions
- Anxiety disorders and symptoms

#### **Synonym**

Anxiety, depression and trauma during pregnancy

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Ministerie van OC&W, Share NET (request is

pending)

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#### Intervention

**Keyword:** Asylum seekers, Pregnancy, Psychiatric disorders, Screening

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

The main study endpoint is to understand how to best detect symptoms of PTSD, anxiety and depression in pregnant asylum seekers in the Netherlands and how to implement screening in the current Dutch guidelines.

The main outcomes are the coded answers of the participants regarding the questions asked duringthe focus group interviews

#### **Secondary outcome**

The secondary study parameters, are the results of the anonymous questionnaire. Within the anonymous questionnaire, we ask the participants questions regarding

The results will be statistically analysed using SPSS in order to provide an

their past general, obstetric and psychosocial history.

overview of the results.

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

Worldwide, in 2018, 70.8 million people fled their country of origin, out of which 20,353 applied for asylum status in the Netherlands. According to the International Organization for migration 48.8% of all international migrants are women. Once a pregnant woman decides to flee her country of origin, she often has been or can be exposed to traumatic experiences. Post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression have indeed a high prevalence in asylum-seeking women: 48.2%, 41,8% and 42% respectively. Psychiatric disorders can increase the likelihood of preterm birth, small for gestational age infants, admission to a neonatal care unit, and more caesarean sections. In addition, suicide is one of the leading causes of maternal death

in the postpartum period among women with psychiatric disorders. The current Dutch guidelines for midwives mention the importance of screening for PTSD, anxiety disorder and depression within this population, however, what the best way to do this is is currently not known.

#### Study objective

This study aims to identify what the most suitable and acceptable method is to create space to discuss psychiatric disorders symptoms in pregnant asylum seekers.

#### Study design

To answer the research question, 4 focus groups interviews with each 6 to 8 pregnant asylum seekers will be performed. The women will first perform a mental health questionnaire and then during the interviews they will discuss the acceptability, feasibility and suitability of this intervention to open up the dialogue about PTSD, anxiety disorders and depression.

#### Study burden and risks

The totality of the time spent by each participant on the research will be in total about 2 to 3 hours. The main risk associated with participation, is that the questions asked via the screening test regarding past trauma could trigger strong emotions, flashbacks, intrusive thoughts and dissociative thoughts. In order to prevent such a possible incident and or be ready to handle such a situation in the best way for the participants, a psychologist will be present during the focus group interviews.

## **Contacts**

#### **Public**

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Hanzeplein 1 Groningen 9713 GZ NL

#### Scientific

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### **Trial sites**

#### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

Adults (18-64 years) Elderly (65 years and older)

#### Inclusion criteria

Pregnant asylum-seeking women older than 18 years old who recently arrived in the Netherlands.

#### **Exclusion criteria**

Pregnant asylum seekers who are younger than 18 years old. Women showing psychotic symptoms

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Diagnostic

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 27-11-2020

Enrollment: 32

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 07-10-2020

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen (Groningen)

# **Study registrations**

## Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

## Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

## In other registers

Register ID

CCMO NL74120.042.20