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INDUCTION OF LACTATION: A SCOPING REVIEW

Ambrogio P Londero[1,2,*], Virginia Valerio[1], Serena Bertozzi[3], Anjeza Xholli[4], Virginia Michelerio[1,4], Angelo Cagnacci[1,4]

1- Department of Neuroscience, Rehabilitation, Ophthalmology, Genetics, Maternal and Infant Health, University of Genoa, 16132 Genova (GE), Italy;
2- Obstetrics and Gynecology Unit, IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, 16147 Genova (GE), Italy;
3- Breast Unit, University Hospital of Udine, 33100 Udine (UD);
4- Academic Unit of Obstetrics and Gynecology, IRCCS Ospedale San Martino, 16132 Genoa (GE), Italy.

Background

Lactation induction is a procedure that stimulates changes in the mammary gland that are usually present during pregnancy in non-pregnant women, allowing them to breastfeed.

Objective

This literature review aimed at identify and map the available evidence on lactation induction using the PCC (population, concept, context) framework.

Methods

A scoping review was conducted in accordance with the PRISMA-SCR and JBI guidelines, with searches in the PubMed/MedLine, Scopus, and Embase databases. The references and citations of the included studies were checked for additional sources. Articles in English, Italian, or Spanish that were relevant to the review's objective and provided full text were included. Publications in other languages, conference abstracts, and non-peer-reviewed sources were excluded. The findings were presented using figures, tables, and narrative synthesis.

Results 1

Of the 81 articles identified, 41 were deemed suitable. The articles were divided into two domains based on their main theme, and eight cross-cutting components were identified: population (including women with a history of breast cancer and transgender women undergoing breast stimulation), indications, success evaluation, benefits, complications, ethical issues, and the practitioner's role.

Results 2

The success rate was 100% for primary induction and 73.68% for secondary induction (p<0.05).

Conclusions

Despite the limited data available, this review concludes that lactation induction is a simple procedure with significant benefits for non-pregnant mothers and their children. The literature lacks data on success rates and frequency of use, suggesting the need for additional research.

ASU FC
Azienda sanitaria universitaria Friuli Centrale
REGIONE AUTONOMA FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA

Università di Genova

enneRgi Research
www.ennergi.eu – info@ennergi.eu