
Records identified through database searching (n = 5340)

Additional records identified through other sources (n = 10)

Records after duplicates removed (n = 23)

Records screened (n = 5327)

Records excluded (n = 5217)

Full-text articles excluded, with reasons (n = 75)
- were focused on particular birth situations or events, e.g. forceps delivery or homebirths (n = 30)
- were primarily about experiences of intra-partum care rather than expectations (n = 27)
- were about maternity care in general rather than intra-partum care specifically (n=13)
- were not of sufficient quality (n=4)
- were unavailable in full text format (n=1)

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n = 110)

Studies included in qualitative synthesis (n = 35)


For more information, visit www.prisma-statement.org.