

Comparison: Home visits for postnatal care contacts compared with routine outpatient postnatal care

Source: Source: Yonemoto N, Nagai S, Mori R. Schedules for home visits in the early postpartum period. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2021;(7):CD009326.

Certainty assessment							№ of patients		Effect		Certainty (GRADE)	Importance
№ of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Postnatal care home visits	Outpatient postnatal care	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
Postnatal depression (last assessment up to 42 days postpartum)												
2	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^b	none	229/1088 (21.0%)	209/1089 (19.2%)	RR 1.10 (0.93 to 1.30)	19 more per 1000 (from 13 fewer to 58 more)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	CRITICAL
Postpartum depression at 60 days (Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale)												
1	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^{b,c}	none	6/92 (6.5%)	14/184 (7.6%)	RR 0.86 (0.34 to 2.16)	11 fewer per 1000 (from 50 fewer to 88 more)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Mean maternal anxiety score (last assessment up to 42 days postpartum)												
1	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^b	none	259	254	-	MD 0.3 higher (1.08 lower to 1.68 higher)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	CRITICAL
Maternal depression and anxiety (Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale)												
1	randomized trials	very serious ^d	not serious	not serious	very serious ^{b,c}	none	2/213 (0.9%)	8/217 (3.7%)	RR 0.25 (0.05 to 1.19)	28 fewer per 1000 (from 35 fewer to 7 more)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Maternal satisfaction with postnatal care												
3	randomized trials	serious ^a	serious ^e	not serious	not serious	none	825/1185 (69.6%)	644/1183 (54.4%)	RR 1.36 (1.14 to 1.62)	196 more per 1000 (from 76 more to 338 more)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	CRITICAL
Mean satisfaction score with postnatal care												
1	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^b	none	259	254	-	MD 0.1 lower (0.88 lower to 0.68 higher)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	CRITICAL

Certainty assessment							№ of patients		Effect		Certainty (GRADE)	Importance
№ of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Postnatal care home visits	Outpatient postnatal care	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		
Emergency maternal health care visits												
3	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^b	none	177/1626 (10.9%)	170/1616 (10.5%)	RR 1.04 (0.82 to 1.33)	4 more per 1000 (from 19 fewer to 35 more)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	CRITICAL
Maternal hospital readmissions												
3	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	very serious ^{b,c}	none	8/1347 (0.6%)	6/1343 (0.4%)	RR 1.33 (0.46 to 3.81)	1 more per 1000 (from 2 fewer to 13 more)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Exclusive breastfeeding (last assessment up to 6 weeks)												
1	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	not serious	none	183/259 (70.7%)	171/254 (67.3%)	RR 1.05 (0.93 to 1.18)	34 more per 1000 (from 47 fewer to 121 more)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	CRITICAL
Any breastfeeding (last assessment up to 6 months)												
1	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	not serious	none	367/509 (72.1%)	326/491 (66.4%)	RR 1.09 (1.00 to 1.18)	60 more per 1000 (from 0 fewer to 120 more)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE	CRITICAL
Discontinuation breastfeeding (up to 30 days)												
1	randomized trials	very serious ^d	not serious	not serious	very serious ^{b,c}	none	18/95 (18.9%)	22/90 (24.4%)	RR 0.78 (0.45 to 1.35)	54 fewer per 1000 (from 134 fewer to 86 more)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW	CRITICAL
Discontinued breastfeeding (up to 6 weeks)												
2	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	not serious	none	180/1088 (16.5%)	193/1089 (17.7%)	RR 0.93 (0.78 to 1.12)	12 fewer per 1000 (from 39 fewer to 21 more)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE	CRITICAL
Infant emergency health care visits (health care utilization)												
3	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^b	none	185/1633 (11.3%)	160/1624 (9.9%)	RR 1.15 (0.95 to 1.38)	15 more per 1000 (from 5 fewer to 37 more)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	CRITICAL

Certainty assessment							No of patients		Effect		Certainty (GRADE)	Importance
No of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Postnatal care home visits	Outpatient postnatal care	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)		

Infant hospital readmissions

3	randomized trials	serious ^a	not serious	not serious	serious ^b	none	30/1347 (2.2%)	25/1343 (1.9%)	RR 1.20 (0.71 to 2.02)	4 more per 1000 (from 5 fewer to 19 more)	⊕⊕○○ LOW	CRITICAL
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CI: confidence interval; MD: mean difference; RR: risk ratio.

a. Most of the pooled effect provided by studies "B".

b. Wide confidence interval crossing the line of no effect.

c. Less than 300 women and/or less than 30 events.

d. The pooled effect provided by study "C".

e. Statistical heterogeneity ($I^2 \geq 60\%$ or $\text{Chi}^2 \leq 0.05$).