What is this new sub-repository on COVID-19, Breastfeeding, Infant Feeding, Breast Milk?

We created a specific file on scientific publications related to breastfeeding, infant feeding, and breast milk; it is a subset of our full repository “COVID-19, Child and Maternal Health, Nutrition.” The same papers in this specialized repository can also be found in the comprehensive repository.

Who is the team compiling the publications?

We recently added new contributors to our team due to the increasingly large number of publications released on COVID-19. Our team consists of a group of great students, all affiliated with Johns Hopkins University (JHU): Minyoung Jang, Megan E. Hadley, and Sajja Singh are medical students at JHU School of Medicine; Xiaodi Xu, Jingyi Wu, Natasha Kaushal, Theresa Boyer, and Caitlin Salloum are Master of Science in Public Health students at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Alexandra Norton is both a medical and MPH student affiliated with both schools; Natalie Busath, Jessie Kunz-Renneberg, Sheila Roy, Molly Rhodes, Lytitia Shea, Joeta Chowdhury and Alisa Sano are Master of Public Health students at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Gayathri Menon and Stacie Loisate are Master of Health Science in Epidemiology students; Akansh Hans is Master of Bioethics student, and Tayler Sulse and Valerie Harrington are Master of Health Science and Master of Science students in Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, respectively. Yama Daqiq is a Master of Applied Science in Patient Safety and Health Quality student at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and Mina Dang is a Master of Health Science in Health Economics and Outcomes Research Student at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Marwa Ramadan is a doctoral student in International Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

In BOLD: currently active team members.

The project is coordinated and supervised by Mija Ververs, who works at the Center for Humanitarian Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and is a visiting health scientist with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

How are the publications selected?

Four electronic databases (PubMed, EMBASE, Global Health(OVID), and SCOPUS) are daily searched for peer-reviewed English articles. The search terms comprise keywords for COVID-19 and one or more of the following dimensions: reproductive health, maternal health, newborn health, child health, food security, maternal nutrition, child nutrition, breastfeeding, and lactation. We identified keywords based on relevant literature and subject headings for each database. Additionally, hand-search of articles and a snowball search strategy are used as supplementary methods to capture articles missed during the systematic search process.

For the specific repository on COVID-19 and Breastfeeding, Infant Feeding and Breast Milk we use additional keywords, such as milk, feeding, breast, formula.

For more details regarding the specific search terms and strategy, please email Marwa Ramadan: mmahmou9@jhu.edu
Are the abstracts from the original publication?

Some sections of the abstracts are restated verbatim from their original publications; other sections have been paraphrased and modified to highlight themes related to maternal and child health and nutrition in the context of COVID-19. There is a wide range of writing quality among rapidly released publications, so we have interpreted texts to the best of our ability.

What is the column on “specific observations” about?

We note significant contributions of new publications to the existing body of literature on aforementioned topics, as well as gaps in areas of study that remain to be investigated.

Can the information from these overviews be used by me?

Absolutely. If you want to use the publications that are described, you will need to refer to the authors and journals directly. If you use our full overviews, then it would be correct to reference this initiative and refer to the website.

Why do I not see certain publications in your list?

If certain important publications are missing, that might be an unintentional oversight on our part. If you notice any errors or think that we should include a specific publication, please send your suggestions to mververs@jhu.edu (subject line: REPOSITORY COVID-19).

Note: Publications will be marked as retracted in our repository, if they were withdrawn since publication according to the following site: https://retractionwatch.com/retracted-coronavirus-covid-19-papers/

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