**SYSTEMATIC REVIEW ABSTRACT**

**prevalence and risk factors for mental illness and domestic abuse in pregnant and 6 weeks postpartum women in sub-Saharan Africa**

**Background**

Domestic Violence (DV) stands as a complex and multifaceted global public health issue, constituting a fundamental breach of human rights. Its prevalence is notably high during pregnancy, with potentially adverse consequences for the mental well-being of pregnant women and their postpartum experiences. This review aims to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the occurrence and risk factors of mental health issues and domestic abuse among women in Sub-Saharan Africa during both pregnancy and the initial six weeks postpartum. The primary objective centres on determining the prevalence rates of mental health concerns and domestic violence within this specific demographic, thereby fostering a deeper understanding of the scope of these issues. Additionally, the review seeks to discover the factors associated with mental health issues and domestic abuse during the stages of antenatal care (ANC) and postnatal care (PNC) in Sub-Saharan Africa.

In addition to examining prevalence and risk factors, the secondary objectives encompass a more extensive inquiry into the interventions deployed for the prevention and management of mental health issues and domestic abuse during ANC and PNC in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Review methods and preliminary results**

The review adheres to the PRISMA guidelines for systematic reviews. A total of 14,492 papers were sourced from various databases (including MEDLINE, CINHAL, PUBMED, etc.) for initial screening. The application of inclusion and exclusion criteria led to the identification of 11,630 studies for screening by title and abstract. Of these, 11,193 studies were deemed irrelevant. Subsequently, 433 studies were eligible for full-text screening, with 343 studies excluded based on inconsistencies with either the setting, population, study design, or outcome. Ultimately, 90 studies qualified for data extraction.

**Conclusion**

This literature review aspires to furnish valuable insights into the prevalence, risk factors, interventions, barriers, facilitators, and the inter-relationship of mental health issues and domestic abuse among pregnant and postpartum women in Sub-Saharan Africa. This knowledge forms the foundation for the development of effective policies and healthcare interventions geared toward enhancing the well-being of women in this region.