Evaluation of cardiac function in women with a history of preeclampsia: a systematic review & meta-analysis

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Objectives & Methods

- Preeclampsia (PE) is associated with a 2-4 fold increased risk of long term cardiovascular sequelae.
- The aim of this study was to identify if women with a history of PE exhibit altered cardiac structure and function which may explain the increased cardiovascular risk in these women.
- This will inform 1) further research, and 2) change in clinical practice guidelines to support or refute early cardiac investigations for women with a history of PE.
- We performed a systematic review of CINAHL, EMBASE & MEDLINE databases to identify studies that examined cardiac function in women with a history of PE, in comparison to those with normotensive pregnancies.

Other results

Those with a history of PE have a lower E/A ratio & higher relative wall thickness in comparison to the non-PE group.

There were no differences between groups with regards to deceleration time and isovolumetric relaxation time.

Results

Women with a history of preeclampsia demonstrate a trend towards altered cardiac structure and diastolic function in comparison to normotensive pregnancies.