

Breastfeeding to prevent Kawasaki Disease: a not-to-miss opportunity !

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INTRODUCTION

Breastfeeding has numerous maternal and child benefits, including a long-term protection from cardiovascular disease. We conducted a systematic review to explore the correlation between breastfeeding and Kawasaki Disease (KD)

MATERIAL & METHODS

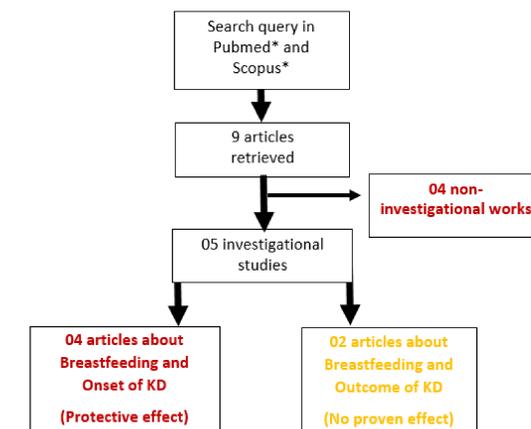
A systematic search was carried out on Scopus* and PubMed* databases via the query : Kawasaki[Title/abstract] AND ("Breastfeeding"[Title/abstract])

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

We retrieved 09 articles, among which 6 investigational studies :

- In the pioneer study from Japan in 2016, breastfed children were less likely to be hospitalized for KD : odds ratios (OR) for hospitalization = 0.26 for exclusive breastfeeding and 0.27 for partial breastfeeding.
- In a 2019 German study, breastfeeding showed a protective effect for KD : OR for breastfeeding for longer than two weeks was 0.471 versus breastfeeding for less than two weeks.
- A 2019 Chinese study explored perinatal factors and did not find a significant difference between patients with and without coronary abnormalities, neither with and without IV immunoglobulins resistance.
- Another 2020 Chinese article included 389 KD cases and 426 controls. Children with exclusive breastfeeding had a decrease in developing KD (adjusted OR= 0.53)
- A study from Japan in 2020 explored 50 KD cases : breastfeeding was not significantly associated to KD ($p = 0.14$)
- The last paper published in october 2021, also from Japan, included 36,885 (34,880 term and 2005 preterm) children born in 2010: Preterm infants were at a high risk for Kawasaki disease, and exclusive breastfeeding might prevent this disease among preterm infants.

In sum, most published papers suggest that breastfeeding is negatively correlated to the onset of KD, but not to its outcomes .



CONCLUSION

According to this systematic review, breastfeeding may prevent KD.

Further investigations are needed to clarify this correlation and to assess a potential stratification of patients.

REFERENCES (UPON REQUEST): rahmounhakim@gmail.com