# Environmental Exposures Influence on the Maternal Microbiome and Health of their Children 

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## Disclosure

- I have no conflicts of interest, sponsorships or commercial support to report


## Objectives:

- Identify exposures that may alter the maternal microbiome
- Discuss potential health implications for their children's health related to altered maternal microbiome composition during pregnancy and birth


## Outline

- Background
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion


## Interaction between M aternal \& Fetal Environments

## Maternal <br> Exposome <br> Health <br> Outcomes



Wright, M. L.; Starkweather, A. R.; York, T. P. Mechanisms of the M aternal Exposome and Implications for Health Outcomes. Adv. Nurs. Sci. 2016, 39, E17-E30.

## M echanisms influencing Development

Endogenous Factors

- Genetic variant
- Neurohormones
- Oxidative stress
- Inflammation


Contributors to Fetal Programming During Pregnancy

Exogenous Exposures
(Exposome)

- Stress
- Medications
- Diet
- Pollutants


Altered gut microbiome influences development of HPA axis responsiveness


Wright, M. L.; Starkweather, A. R.; York, T. P. M echanisms of the M aternal Exposome ${ }_{5}$ and Implications for Health Outcomes. Adv. Nurs. Sci. 2016, 39, E17-E30.

## DNA M ethylation



## Environment and DNA methylation



## 2 Questions

1. What is known about the maternal microbiome during pregnancy?
2. Do variations in the maternal microbiome during pregnancy influence children's future health?


## Integrative Review

 Key words:- Microbiome
- Microbiota
- Antenatal period
- Pregnancy
- Offspring
- Birth outcomes



## Results Overview

- Small sample sizes
- Observational and randomized control trials
- Ambiguous findings
- Full Results freely available online:

Wright, M. L.; Starkweather, A. R. Antenatal microbiome: Potential contributor to fetal programming and establishment of the microbiome in offspring. Nurs. Res. 2015, 64, 306-319.

## M ain factors identified



## Potential Health Implications



## Clinical Implications

- M ode of birth
- Infant feeding
- Environmental toxicants
- Antibiotic use



## Thank you!

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