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### ► To cite this version:

Raquel Costa, Heloisa Dias, Benedetta Covi, Ilaria Mariani, Emanuelle Pessa Valente, et al.. Migrant women's perception of quality of maternal and newborn care around the time of childbirth: IMAGiNE EURO results. *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, 2023, 163 (Suppl 1), pp.393. hal-04664739

**HAL Id: hal-04664739**

**<https://hal.science/hal-04664739v1>**

Submitted on 30 Jul 2024

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Costa Raquel, Dias Heloísa, Covi Benedetta, Mariani Ilaria, Valente Emanuelle Pessa, Zaigham Mehreen, Vik Eline Skirnisdottir, Grylka-Baeschlin Susanne, Arendt Maryse, Wandschneider Lisa, Drglin Zalka, Drandić Daniela, Radetic Jelena, Rozée Virginie, Elden Helen, Mueller Antonia Nathalie, Barata Catarina, Miani Céline, Bohinec Anja, Ruzicic Jovana, La Rochebrochard Elise (de), Linden Karolina, Geremia Sara, de Labrusse Claire, Batram-Zantvoort Stephanie, Milhevc Ponikvar Barbara, Sacks Emma, Lazzerini Marzia, « Migrant women’s perception of quality of maternal and newborn care around the time of childbirth: IMAGiNE EURO results », *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, 2024, 163, Suppl. 1, 393.

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## **Migrant women’s perception of quality of maternal and newborn care around the time of childbirth: IMAGiNE EURO results**

R. Costa<sup>1</sup>; H. Dias<sup>2</sup>; B. Covi<sup>3</sup>; I. Mariani<sup>4</sup>; E. Valente<sup>4</sup>; M. Zaigham<sup>5</sup>; E. Vik<sup>6</sup>; S. Grylka-Baeschlin<sup>7</sup>; M. Arendt<sup>8</sup>; L. Wandschneider<sup>9</sup>; Z. Drglin<sup>10</sup>; D. Drandić<sup>11</sup>; J. Radetic<sup>12</sup>; V. Rozée<sup>13</sup>; H. Elden<sup>14</sup>; A. Mueller<sup>7</sup>; C. Barata<sup>15</sup>; C. Miani<sup>9</sup>; A. Bohinec<sup>10</sup>; J. Ruzicic<sup>12</sup>; E. de La Rochebrochard<sup>13</sup>; K. Linden<sup>14</sup>; S. Geremia<sup>16</sup>; C. de Labrusse<sup>17</sup>; S. Batram-Zantvoort<sup>18</sup>; B. Ponikvar<sup>10</sup>; E. Sacks<sup>19</sup>; M. Lazzerini<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Epidemiology Research Unit, Institute of Public Health, Porto University, Portugal;

<sup>2</sup> Regional Health Administration of the Algarve, IP (ARS - Algarve), Portugal;

<sup>3</sup> WHO Collaborating Center for Maternal and Child Health, IRCCS Burlo, Italy;

<sup>4</sup> WHO Collaborating Centre for Maternal and Child Health, Trieste, Italy;

<sup>5</sup> Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Institution of Clinical Sciences Lund, Lund University, Lund and Skåne University Hospital, Malmö, Sweden;

<sup>6</sup> Department of Health and Caring Sciences, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Norway;

<sup>7</sup> Institute of Midwifery, School of Health Professions, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland;

<sup>8</sup> Beruffsverband vun de Laktatiounsberoderinnen zu Lëtzebuerg asbl (Professional association of the Lactation Consultants in Luxembourg), Luxembourg;

<sup>9</sup> Department of Epidemiology and International Public Health, School of Public Health, Bielefeld University, Germany,

<sup>10</sup> National Institute of Public Health, Ljubljana, Slovenia;

<sup>11</sup> Roda– Parents in Action, Zagreb, Croatia;

<sup>12</sup> Centar za mame, Belgrade, Serbia;

<sup>13</sup> Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Research Unit, Institut National d'Études Démographiques (INED), Paris, France;

<sup>14</sup> Institute of Health and Care Sciences, Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg, Sweden;

<sup>15</sup> Instituto de Ciências Sociais, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal;

<sup>16</sup> Institute for Maternal and Child Health IRCCS Burlo Garofolo, Trieste, Italy;

<sup>17</sup> School of Health Sciences (HESAV), HES-SO University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland, Lausanne, Switzerland;

<sup>18</sup> Department of Epidemiology and International Public Health, School of Public Health, Bielefeld University, Germany;

<sup>19</sup> Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

## **OBJECTIVE.**

Describe the maternal perception of quality of maternal and newborn care (QMNC) around the time of childbirth among migrant versus non-migrant women during the COVID-19 pandemic, in 11 countries of the WHO European Region, using a standardized data collection instrument based on the World Health Organization (WHO) standards-based quality measures.

## **METHOD.**

Women giving birth at a health facility in 11 countries of the WHO European Region from March 2020 to July 2021 were invited to answer an online validated questionnaire including demographics and childbirth experience questions. Data were analyzed and compared for 1781 migrant and 20 653 non-migrant women. We described absolute frequencies and percentages for key quality measures attending to migration status, country and separately for women who did versus did not experienced labor.

## **RESULTS.**

Migrant women experiencing labor perceived more difficulties in attending routine antenatal visits (41.2% vs 39.4%;  $P = 0.001$ ), barriers in accessing facilities (32.9% vs 29.9%;  $P = 0.001$ ), lack of timely care (14.7% vs 13.0%;  $P = 0.025$ ), inadequate room comfort and equipment (9.2% vs 8.5%;  $P = 0.004$ ), inadequate number of women per rooms (9.4% vs 8.6%;  $P = 0.039$ ), no able to stay with their baby as wished (7.8% vs 6.9%;  $P = 0.011$ ), or suffer abuses (14.5% vs 12.7%;  $P = 0.022$ ) compared to non-migrant women.

## **CONCLUSION.**

Gaps in overall QMNC were reported by both migrant and nonmigrant women. It's important to understand how healthcare operates for migrants within the WHO European Region, to improve QMNC and to develop migrant-friendly health systems that incorporate the needs of migrants to achieve equity and healthier societies