Influence of maternal obesity on the association between common pregnancy complications and risks of childhood obesity: an individual participant data meta-analysis

Gestational diabetes and hypertensive disorders are among the most common pregnancy complications. Maternal obesity has been identified as a risk factor for these complications. The aim of this paper was to look at the association between maternal gestational diabetes, gestational hypertension and pre-eclampsia with the odds of overweight and obesity in offspring throughout childhood. The authors also attempted to explore whether the association was independent of pre-pregnancy or early-pregnancy body mass index.

Findings revealed that the highest proportions of childhood overweight were observed among children with mothers with overweight or obesity at the start of the pregnancy. Additionally, the study also revealed that children born to mother with gestational diabetes and hypertensive disorders had a higher body mass index as well as increased risk of becoming overweight during their childhood.