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## OBJECTIVE

To examine the impact of bariatric surgery on fetomaternal health outcomes during pregnancy and to identify the specific obstetric challenges arising in this context.

## DESIGN

A retrospective cohort study was conducted, involving pregnant women who underwent bariatric surgery before conception. Data were collected from clinical records, focusing on maternal health indicators, pregnancy outcomes, and fetomaternal complications.

## METHODS

The study analyzed pregnancies after bariatric surgery, comparing outcomes with those from a matched control group of women who had not undergone the procedure. Key variables assessed included gestational weight gain, preterm birth rates, gestational diabetes, hypertensive disorders, and postpartum complications. Data were collected through medical records, follow-up interviews, and obstetric consultations.

## RESULTS

The analysis revealed significant differences in pregnancy outcomes between the two groups. Women who had undergone bariatric surgery showed a higher rate of preterm births (15% vs. 8%,  $p < 0.05$ ) and a greater incidence of gestational diabetes (20% vs. 10%,  $p < 0.01$ ). However, these women experienced lower rates of excessive gestational weight gain (15% vs. 30%,  $p < 0.001$ ) and fewer instances of postpartum complications (10% vs. 25%,  $p < 0.01$ ).

## CONCLUSION

Pregnancy after bariatric surgery presents both unique opportunities and challenges for obstetric care. While bariatric surgery may reduce excessive gestational weight gain and improve postpartum outcomes, it is associated with higher risks of preterm birth and gestational diabetes. These findings underscore the need for tailored prenatal care strategies for women with a history of bariatric surgery to optimize both maternal and fetal health outcomes. Obstetricians should be vigilant in monitoring these patients throughout pregnancy, adopting a multidisciplinary approach to manage complications and mitigate risks effectively.