

Social Inequities Contributing to Gestational Diabetes in Indigenous Populations in Canada: A Scoping Review

Speakers: Kaeshan Elamurugan (he/him) & Jamie Strain (she/her)

Research Team: Kaeshan Elamurugan, Leila Esmaeilisaraji, Jamie Strain, Hilary Ziraldo, Ariel Root, Heather MacDonald, Charles Meekis, Ruben Hummelen, Renate Ysseldyk



Sioux Lookout
First Nations
Health Authority



Disclosure of Affiliations, Financial Support and Mitigating Bias

Affiliations:

Carleton University

- Kaeshan Elamurugan, Leila Esmaeilisaraji, Jamie Strain, Hilary Ziraldo, Ariel Root, Heather MacDonald, Renate Ysseldyk

Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority

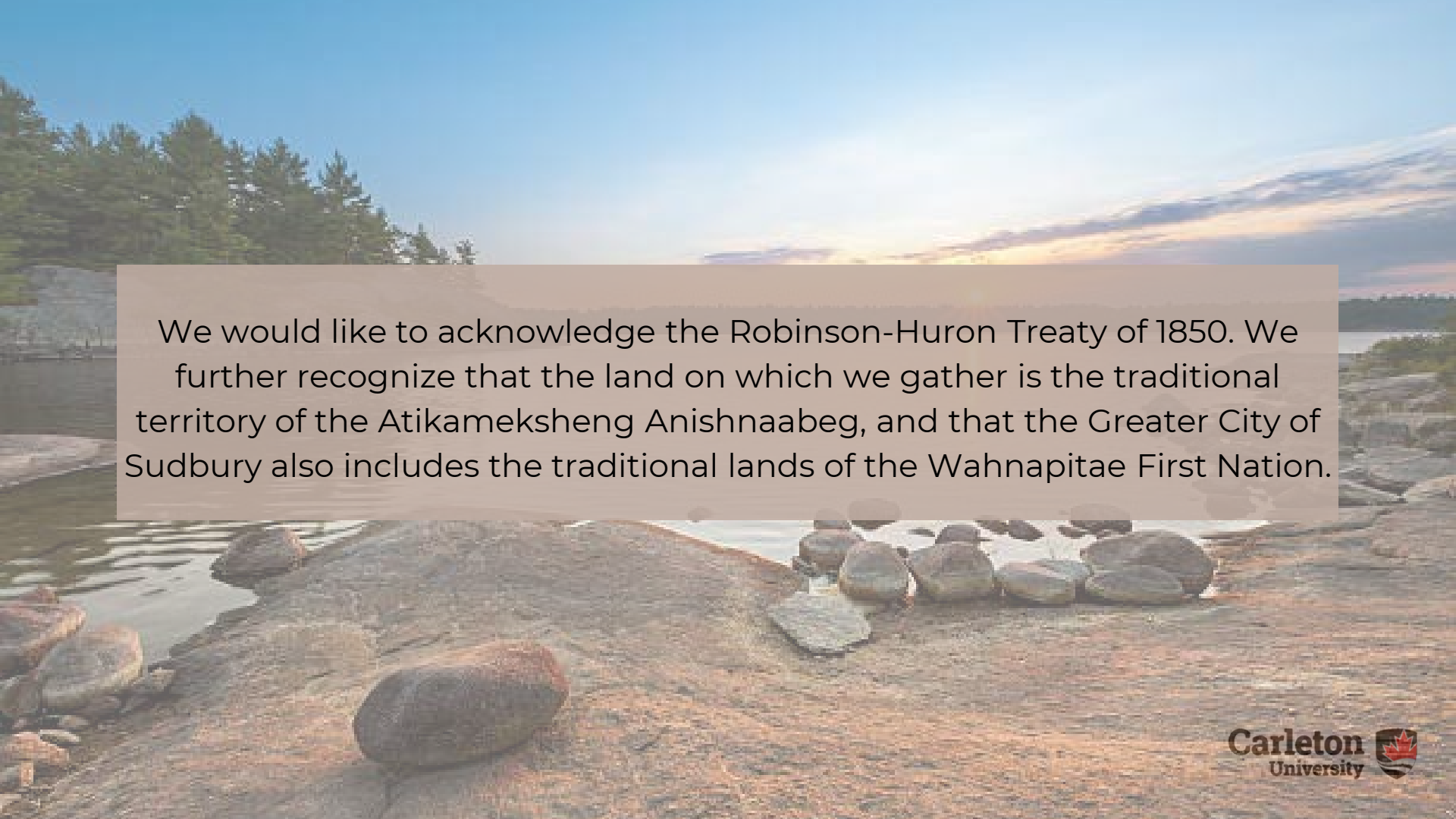
- Charles Meekis

Northern Ontario School of Medicine

- Ruben Hummelen

Financial support:

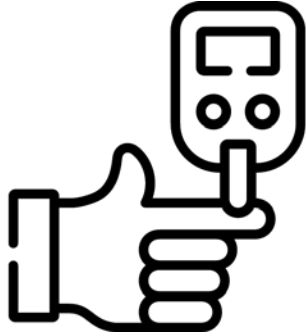
This research has not received financial or in-kind support.



We would like to acknowledge the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850. We further recognize that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Atikameksheng Anishnaabeg, and that the Greater City of Sudbury also includes the traditional lands of the Wahnapiitae First Nation.

Background and Objectives

Gestational Diabetes



Insulin resistance
during pregnancy



Linked to adverse
health outcomes



Nationally, 5% of
births are affected



Example of a rural health nursing station

Higher Prevalence of GDM among Indigenous Populations

Structural and Social Determinants of Health



- The social determinants of health (SDoH) are broad factors that shape health outcomes.
- These forces and systems include socio-economic policies, healthcare systems, societal norms and divisions of government.
- The SDoH and non-healthcare resources have a substantial impact on health inequalities and avoidable health disparities.



Research Question

This scoping review sought out to consolidate existing knowledge regarding GDM among Indigenous peoples in Canada, **including the social and structural determinants** that may contribute to higher GDM prevalence in this population.

Methodology

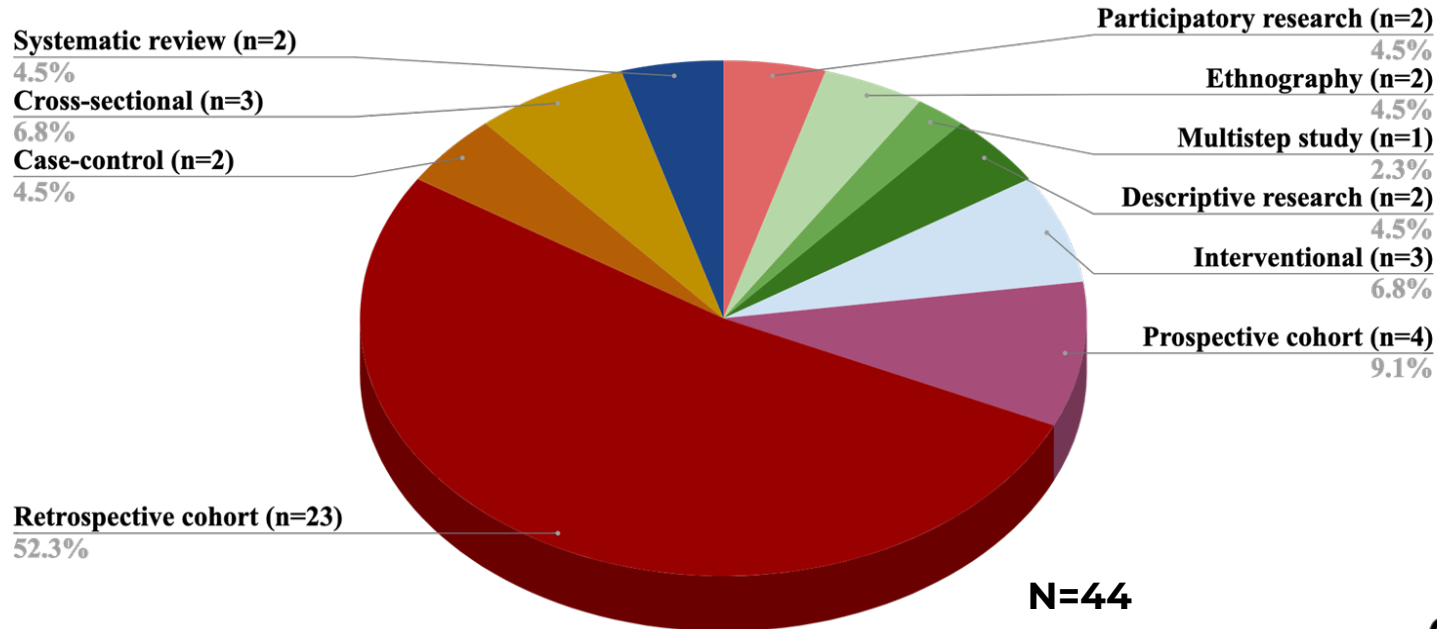
Search Strategy



- Databases searched:
 - Pubmed, CINAHL, ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global
- Other sources:
 - OMNI, Circumpolar Health, Bibliography of Native North Americans, iPortal

Results and Discussions

Charting Data, Study Designs & Characteristics



Core Themes



EPIDEMIOLOGY

Prevalence

Risk Factors

Maternal Outcomes

Child Outcomes



HEALTH SYSTEMS

Screening, Diagnosis &
Treatment

Systemic Barriers



INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES

Health Behaviours,
Perceptions & Concerns

Implications



Clinical Practice:

Approaches to treatment must be culturally-specific

Research:

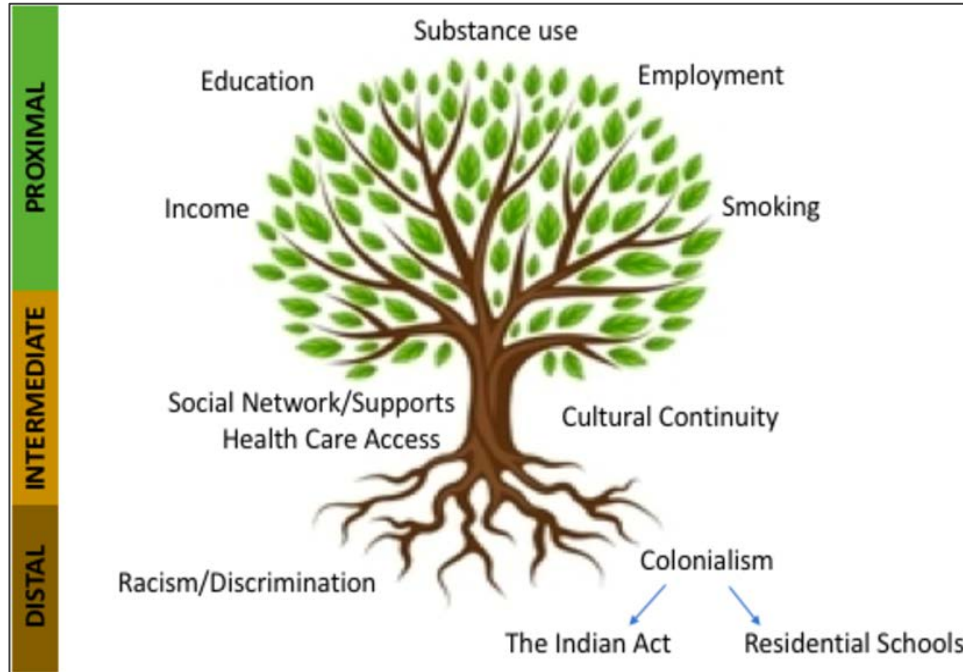
Need for interventional studies



Policy:

Increased support for community-based GDM care

Applications for Daily Practice



Reading's (2015) framework.

- **Proximal** health determinants include behavioural and environmental factors such as early development, income, education, employment and working conditions, culture, and social support networks.
- **Distal** health determinants are deeply embedded in society, such as historical, political, and economic systems. Indigenous peoples have been heavily influenced by the legacy of colonisation.
- **Intermediate** health determinants are those that link the proximal and distal determinants, such as government policies, health care, health promotion, and social factors.

The background is a solid red color. On the left side, there are several thick, black, curved shapes that sweep across the frame. One large black shape starts from the top left and curves downwards towards the bottom right. Another black shape is below it, also curving. A thin red line runs diagonally between these black shapes. In the bottom right corner, there is a black shape that curves upwards and to the left, resembling a stylized wave or a tail.

Questions?