

Social Research Call

Title: *Perinatal intimate partner violence, mother's mental health, parenting, and infant development*



Acronym: PERI_IPV

Project leader: Inês Jongenelen

Host organisation: COFAC/ Universidade Lusófona

Main purpose of the project: To analyze the impact of perinatal intimate partner violence (IPV) on maternal mental health, parenting and infant development across the first six months of life of the baby.

Design/methodology/approach: A multimethod and multidomain methodological design combining qualitative and quantitative methods in a longitudinal study with three assessment waves from pregnancy to the postpartum period, with a multidisciplinary team and with a two-way engagement of key stakeholders.

Potential results: The project will test a conceptual-driven and comprehensive model that considers the interactive associations between intimate partner violence during pregnancy and the postpartum period, maternal mental health, parenting, and infant development. Findings will advance scientific knowledge on the ecological impact of IPV in the perinatal period.

Social relevance of the research:

PERI_IPV results can be transferred to evidence-based practice and will assist public health and political stakeholders in policy and program development design to mitigate the harmful consequences of the IPV in a critical period of individuals' life cycle. The research will inform interventions targeting families exposed to IPV.

Originality/value of the project: By tackling the lack of scientific knowledge about IPV in the perinatal period, results will inform the development of evidenced-based guidelines for prevention and intervention to minimize the personal and social costs of experiences of IPV, mitigating the burden of IPV, a major social and health problem in Portugal.