

# Safety of the second generation antipsychotics during pregnancy (Second generation antipsychotics and pregnancy)

**First published:** 23/09/2013

**Last updated:** 23/04/2024

Study

Finalised

## Administrative details

### PURI

<https://redirect.ema.europa.eu/resource/42972>

### EU PAS number

EUPAS4799

### Study ID

42972

### DARWIN EU® study

No

### Study countries

☐ Finland

## Study description

Second generation antipsychotics have largely replaced first generation antipsychotics but little is known about their safety during pregnancy. This is a population based study based on national register data in Finland. Data from the National Birth Register, the Register of Congenital Malformations, and the Drug Prescription Register have been linked through years 1996-2012 in the Drugs and Pregnancy project, and data in this study are extracted from the Drugs and Pregnancy project database. The data include all births (live and still births), pregnancy terminations due to major congenital anomaly, and information on drug purchases during pregnancy and 3 months before pregnancy. There are appr. 55,000-60,000 births per year in Finland, and we expect to have a baseline study population with appr. 1 mil. pregnancies. Appr. 0.2-0.6% of pregnant women during the study period used antipsychotics and we expect to include appr.2,000 pregnancies exposed to second generation antipsychotics. The primary aims of the study are i.) to assess the risk of major congenital anomalies after first trimester exposure to second generation antipsychotics and ii.) to investigate the prevalence of other perinatal outcomes, including large for gestational age, preterm birth, low birth weight, and perinatal mortality after continuous exposure. The exposed group is compared i) to women and their offspring exposed to first generation antipsychotics during the period of three months prior to pregnancy until the end of pregnancy (to control for maternal illness), and ii) to unexposed women. Logistic regression is used to evaluate associations between exposure and outcome, and covariates to be considered include year of birth, mother's age, parity, tobacco use, prepregnancy diabetes, use of other psychiatric drugs and use of drugs classified as potentially harmful. The results will provide important information on the safety of second generation antipsychotics during pregnancy.

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## Study status

Finalised

## Research institutions and networks

# Institutions

## Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)

☐ Finland

**First published:** 01/02/2024

**Last updated:** 01/02/2024

**Institution**

**Educational Institution**

**Laboratory/Research/Testing facility**

## Contact details

### Study institution contact

Heli Malm

**Study contact**

[heli.malm@hus.fi](mailto:heli.malm@hus.fi)

### Primary lead investigator

Heli Malm

**Primary lead investigator**

## Study timelines

### Date when funding contract was signed

Planned: 01/01/2012

Actual: 01/01/2012

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**Study start date**

Planned: 15/05/2014

Actual: 15/05/2014

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**Data analysis start date**

Planned: 15/09/2014

Actual: 01/09/2016

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**Date of interim report, if expected**

Planned: 31/10/2018

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**Date of final study report**

Planned: 01/09/2019

Actual: 03/11/2019

## Sources of funding

- Other

## More details on funding

Finnish Medicines Agency

## Study protocol

[NEW\\_antipsychotics\\_HM.pdf](#)(88.33 KB)

[NEW\\_antipsychotics\\_HM\\_\\_09052014.pdf](#)(95.42 KB)

## Regulatory

**Was the study required by a regulatory body?**

No

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**Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?**

Not applicable

## Methodological aspects

Study type

Study type list

**Study topic:**

Human medicinal product

Disease /health condition

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**Study type:**

Non-interventional study

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**Scope of the study:**

Assessment of risk minimisation measure implementation or effectiveness

Safety study (incl. comparative)

**Data collection methods:**

Secondary use of data

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**Main study objective:**

To assess pregnancy-related risks associated with the use of second generation antipsychotics. These include major congenital anomalies and perinatal outcomes including preterm birth, birth weight, perinatal death etc.

## Study Design

### **Non-interventional study design**

Cohort

## Population studied

### **Short description of the study population**

Exposed cohort:

The definition of exposure includes pregnancies where the woman has purchased second generation antipsychotics (4th level ATC code N05AE, N05AH, N05AL, N05AX) at any time during pregnancy and/ or one month before pregnancy. Major congenital anomalies will be analyzed in the cohort with purchase(s) during one month prior to pregnancy or during the first trimester

The two unexposed reference groups consist of:

- 1. All pregnant women and their offspring not exposed to second generation antipsychotics during pregnancy and three months before pregnancy, but exposed to first generation antipsychotics (ATC codes N05AA, N05AB, N05AC, N05AD, N05AF) at any time during the period of three months before pregnancy until the end of pregnancy
  - 2. Pregnant women and their offspring unexposed to second generation antipsychotics during the period of three months prior to pregnancy until the end of pregnancy
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**Age groups**

Preterm newborn infants (0 – 27 days)

Term newborn infants (0 – 27 days)

Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)

Adults (18 to < 46 years)

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**Special population of interest**

Pregnant women

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**Estimated number of subjects**

10000

## Study design details

**Outcomes**

Major congenital anomalies, perinatal outcomes including preterm birth > 37 weeks and very preterm birth (< 32 weeks), low birth weight (< 2500g) and very low birth weight (< 1500g), perinatal death, mode of delivery, neonatal outcome (Apgar score, hypoxia, need for treatment in neonatal care unit, etc).

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**Data analysis plan**

All data are anonymized and coded prior to statistical analysis. The prevalence of specific outcomes is compared between exposed and unexposed pregnant women and their offspring. Univariate analyses are used to study demographic differences between the study cohorts, and logistic regression to assess the association between new generation antipsychotic use during pregnancy and major congenital anomalies (MCA) and perinatal outcomes. With an estimated of 2,000 exposed births and fetuses from elective terminations of pregnancy due to fetal anomaly, the study has a 98.3% power to detect a 60% relative increase (1.8% absolute increase) in the prevalence of MCAs presuming a

baseline prevalence of 3% in the control cohort ( $\alpha = 0.05$ , two-sided), and for perinatal complications that have a prevalence of 6% (as preterm birth) we have a 98.3% power to detect a 40% relative risk increase (2.4% absolute risk increase).

## Documents

### Study results

[ABSTRACT\\_121019.pdf](#)(2.99 KB)

[SGA\\_malformations\\_Ellfolk et al..pdf](#)(352.71 KB)

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### Study publications

[Ellfolk M, Leinonen MK, Gissler M, Lahesmaa-Korpinen AM, Saastamoinen L, Nurmin...](#)

[Ellfolk M, Leinonen MK, Gissler M, Kiuru-Kuhlefelt S, Saastamoinen L, Malm H. S...](#)

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## Data management

## ENCePP Seal

**This study has been awarded the ENCePP seal**



### Conflicts of interest of investigators

[CI\\_M-LN.pdf](#)(1.39 MB)

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## Composition of steering group and observers

[Specification of steering group.pdf](#)(17.06 KB)

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## Data sources

### Data source(s), other

Drugs and Pregnancy Finland

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### Data sources (types)

[Administrative healthcare records \(e.g., claims\)](#)

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

### CDM mapping

No

## Data quality specifications

### Check conformance

Unknown

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### Check completeness

Unknown

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### Check stability

Unknown

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### Check logical consistency

Unknown

## Data characterisation

**Data characterisation conducted**

No