

# Childbirth in Greek maternity hospitals and the community (birth centers - home births)

<b>Submission date</b> 22/11/2025	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 26/11/2025	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 25/11/2025	<b>Condition category</b> Pregnancy and Childbirth	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

In Greece, the rates of caesarean sections have exceeded 50%, while those who give birth vaginally are subjected to a large number of interventions during labour, such as episiotomy, administration of oxytocin, and frequent vaginal examinations, among others. In Europe and the United States, there is currently a trend toward less medical interventions at childbirth without compromising perinatal outcomes, while enhancing women's positive childbirth experiences. The purpose of the GENESIS study is to explore the magnitude and type of medical interventions during childbirth, women's childbirth experience, and perinatal outcomes according to the place of birth (hospital, birth center, home) in Greece.

### Who can participate?

In the GENESIS study, women who have given birth in Greece within the past five (5) years may participate. These women may have given birth in a maternity hospital (public or private) (hospital births), at home (home births), or in a birth center (birth center).

### What does the study involve?

The GENESIS study will be conducted as an online survey using a questionnaire specifically designed to collect data and information regarding childbirth among women in Greece. The data to be recorded will include: demographic characteristics; details of the participants' most recent birth (place of birth [hospital, birth center, home], mode of delivery [CS/VB], medical interventions, if any, etc.); perinatal outcomes (maternal/neonatal morbidity and mortality); and women's childbirth experiences.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

There are no benefits or risks associated with participating.

### Where is the study run from?

The University of Western Macedonia, Greece.

### When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

December 2025 to February 2026.

Who is funding the study?  
The University of Western Macedonia, Greece.

Who is the main contact?  
Dr Dimitrios Papoutsis, Associate Professor at the Department of Midwifery, in the University of Western Macedonia in Greece, dpapoutsis@uowm.gr

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Public, Scientific, Principal investigator

### Contact name

Prof Dimitrios Papoutsis

### ORCID ID

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9921-1120>

### Contact details

KEPTSE area, Ptolemaida  
Kozani  
Greece  
50200  
+30 24610 68050  
dpapoutsis@uowm.gr

## Additional identifiers

## Study information

### Scientific Title

Childbirth in Greek maternity hospitals and the community (birth centers - home births)-the GENESIS study

### Acronym

GENESIS

### Study objectives

The primary objectives are to explore the magnitude and type of medical interventions during childbirth, women's childbirth experience, and the perinatal outcomes according to the place of birth (hospital, birth center, home) in Greece

The secondary objectives are to identify the factors that may reduce the medical interventions during labour, improve perinatal outcomes, and enhance women's childbirth experiences. For example, such factors may include the presence of a midwife during labour, attendance of antenatal childbirth preparation classes, the public or private nature of the maternity hospital, and home birth, among others.

### Ethics approval required

Ethics approval required

## **Ethics approval(s)**

approved 19/11/2025, Research Ethics Committee of the University of Western Macedonia, Greece (ZEP area - University of Western Macedonia Kozani Greece, Kozani, 50100, Greece; +30 2461056500; ehde@uowm.gr), ref: 220/2026/19.11.2025

## **Primary study design**

Observational

## **Secondary study design**

Cross sectional study

## **Study type(s)**

## **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Exploring the magnitude and type of medical interventions during childbirth, women's childbirth experience, and perinatal outcomes according to the place of birth (hospital, birth center, home) in Greece

## **Interventions**

The GENESIS study will be conducted as an online survey using a questionnaire specifically designed to collect data and information regarding childbirth among women in Greece. The data to be recorded will include: demographic characteristics; details of the participants' most recent birth (place of birth [hospital, birth center, home], mode of delivery [CS/VB], medical interventions, if any, etc.); perinatal outcomes (maternal/neonatal morbidity and mortality); and women's childbirth experiences.

## **Intervention Type**

Other

## **Primary outcome(s)**

1. The magnitude and type of medical interventions during childbirth; women's childbirth experience; and perinatal outcomes, according to the place of birth (hospital, birth center, home) measured using an online questionnaire with targeted questions, such as what medical interventions were applied (ie CS, epidural analgesia etc), how would you rate your childbirth experience, was the neonate admitted to the NNU etc at over the past 5 years

## **Key secondary outcome(s)**

## **Completion date**

28/02/2026

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

In the GENESIS study, women who have given birth in Greece within the past five (5) years may participate. These women may have given birth in a maternity hospital (public or private) (hospital births), at home (home births), or in a birth center (birth center).

### **Healthy volunteers allowed**

Yes

**Age group**

Mixed

**Lower age limit**

16 years

**Upper age limit**

54 years

**Sex**

Female

**Total final enrolment**

0

**Key exclusion criteria**

Women who have given birth in Greece more than five (5) years ago.

**Date of first enrolment**

01/12/2025

**Date of final enrolment**

28/02/2026

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

Greece

## Sponsor information

**Organisation**

University of Western Macedonia

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/00a5pe906>

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**

**Funder Name**

University of Western Macedonia

**Alternative Name(s)**

Πανεπιστήμιο Δυτικής Μακεδονίας, UoWM

**Funding Body Type**

Government organisation

**Funding Body Subtype**

Universities (academic only)

**Location**

Greece

## **Results and Publications**

**Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan****IPD sharing plan summary**

Data sharing statement to be made available at a later date