



## ISM Lunchtime Seminar Series

The ISM Lunchtime Seminars are online bi-monthly events, which take place on Thursdays, 13:00-13:30h, and are open to all interested colleagues and students. ISM researchers and guest speakers present their work during a 15-minute seminar, in the English language, followed by a brief Q&A session.

We are happy to announce our next speaker: Lydia Rihm from the research group of Prof. Susan Garthus-Niegel

**Title:** Subjective birth experience and potentially traumatic experiences in obstetrics: Insights from the RESPECT study

**Abstract:** Childbirth can involve negative interpersonal experiences, such as mistreatment or discrimination, which may be perceived as traumatic. Some parents develop symptoms of childbirth-related PTSD (CB-PTSD). The longitudinal study 'RESPECT' ('A Prospective Mixed-Methods REsearch Project on Subjective Birth Experience and PErson-centred Care in ParenTs and Obstetric Health Care Staff') assesses parents' subjective birth experiences, influencing factors, and family impacts. RESPECT<sub>PARENTS</sub> includes 1,680 mothers and 880 partners, with data collected at four time points (3rd trimester, 8 weeks, 6 and 24 months postpartum). Preliminary analyses revealed that 7% of mothers and 2% of partners reported a very negative birth experience. Mistreatment was reported by 26.8% of mothers and 7% of partners; 3–4% felt discriminated against. CB-PTSD criteria were met by 1.7% of mothers and 1.3% of partners. Mistreatment and discrimination were associated with more negative birth experiences in both parents and directly predicted CB-PTSD in mothers; in fathers, this link was fully mediated by birth experience. The findings underscore the importance of addressing mistreatment and discrimination in obstetric care and support the development of person-centered care models responsive to parental needs.

**When:** 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 13:00h

**Where:** MS-Teams (to join, please click [here](#))

**Please follow the rules below to make these seminars a success:**

- Please use your real name while entering the meeting. Participants with cryptic names will not be given access to the seminar.
- Please turn off your microphone while the seminar is taking place.
- Please feel free to ask questions!

**Contact information:** Please contact [Dr. Annakarina Mundorf](#) or [Dr. Deeksha Malhan](#) for further information.