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| **Medline** |  |  |
| **Concept** | **MeSH** | **Keywords** |
| Sex difference | Sex characteristic/ | (sex adj2 difference\*) OR (gender adj2 difference\*) OR (sex adj2 characteristic\*) OR (gender adj2 characteristic\*) OR (sex adj4 specific) OR (gender adj4 specific) OR (sex adj4 dependent) OR (gender adj4 dependent) OR (sexual\* adj2 dimorph\*) OR (moderated adj4 sex) |
| Prenatally programmed | Fetus/ OR Prenatal Exposure Delayed Effects/ OR Pregnancy/ | prenatal\* OR "in utero" OR f?etal OR antenatal\* OR "early life" OR development\* OR programm\* OR gestation OR placenta\* |
| HPA axis | exp Glucocorticoids/ or Dexamethasone/ or Pituitary-Adrenal System/ or Stress, Psychological/ or Hypothalamo-Hypophyseal System/ or pituitary gland, anterior/ or corticotrophs/ or Adrenal Glands/ or exp Adrenal Cortex/ or exp Corticosterone/ or exp Hydrocortisone/ or Adrenocorticotropic Hormone/ or exp Pregnadienediols/ or exp Pregnadienetriols/ | HPA OR glucocorticoid\* OR cortisol OR 11BHSD2 OR birthweight OR corticosteroid\* OR dexamethasone OR prednisolone OR prednisone OR beclomethasone OR betamethasone OR fludrocortisone OR hydrocortisone OR "11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase " OR "11β-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase" OR "HPA axis" OR "hypothalamo-pituitary adrenal axis" |
| Exclusions (NOT): | Ethanol/ OR Caffeine/ OR Fluoxetine/ OR Nicotine/ | ethanol OR alcohol OR caffeine OR fluoxetine OR nicotine |

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| **Embase** |  |  |
| **Concept** | **MeSH** | **Keywords** |
| Sex difference | Sex difference/ | (sex adj2 difference\*) OR (gender adj2 difference\*) OR (sex adj2 characteristic\*) OR (gender adj2 characteristic\*) OR (sex adj4 specific) OR (gender adj4 specific) OR (sex adj4 dependent) OR (gender adj4 dependent) OR (sexual\* adj2 dimorph\*) OR (moderated adj4 sex) |
| Prenatally programmed | Fetus/ OR Prenatal Exposure/ OR Pregnancy/ OR early life stress/ OR maternal stress/ OR prenatal stress/ | prenatal\* OR "in utero" OR f?etal OR antenatal\* OR "early life" OR development\* OR programm\* OR gestation OR placenta\* |
| HPA axis | glucocorticoid/ or dexamethasone/ or hypothalamus hypophysis adrenal system/ or hypophysis adrenal system/ or hypothalamus hypophysis system/ or hypophysis/ or ACTH secreting cell/ or adrenal gland/ or adrenal cortex/ or corticosterone/ or hydrocortisone/ or corticotropin/ or pregnane derivative/ | HPA OR glucocorticoid\* OR cortisol OR 11BHSD2 OR birthweight OR corticosteroid\* OR dexamethasone OR prednisolone OR prednisone OR beclomethasone OR betamethasone OR fludrocortisone OR hydrocortisone OR "11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase " OR "11β-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase" OR "HPA axis" OR "hypothalamo-pituitary adrenal axis" |

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| **Web of science** |  |
| **Concept** | **Keywords** |
| Sex difference | (sex NEAR/2 difference\*) OR (gender NEAR/2 difference\*) OR (sex NEAR/2 characteristic\*) OR (gender NEAR/2 characteristic\*) OR  (sex NEAR/4 specific) OR (gender NEAR/4 specific) OR (sex NEAR/4 dependent) OR (gender NEAR/4 dependent) OR (sexual\* NEAR/2 dimorph\*) OR (moderated NEAR/4 sex) |
| Prenatally programmed | prenatal\* OR "in utero" OR f?etal OR antenatal\* OR "early life" OR development\* OR programm\* OR gestation OR placenta\* |
| HPA axis | HPA OR glucocorticoid\* OR cortisol OR 11BHSD2 OR birthweight OR corticosteroid\*  OR dexamethasone OR prednisolone OR prednisone OR beclomethasone OR betamethasone OR fludrocortisone OR hydrocortisone OR "11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase " OR "11**β**-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase" OR "HPA axis" OR "hypothalamo-pituitary adrenal axis" |