

Table 1: Studies in the literature examining the associations between delivery type and childhood overweight/obesity occurrence.

Source	Study Sample	Type of Study	Location	Follow-up Period/Study Design	Study Results
Gopinath et al. 2012 ⁸	1,741 children aged 6 years and 2,354 children aged 12 years	Cross-sectional study (The Sydney Childhood Eye Study)	Sydney, Australia	Data collection about the perinatal environment retrospectively, through the use of questionnaires	Cesarean section was associated with obesity occurrence in the six-year-old cohort
Li et al. 2013 ¹⁷	7 cohort and 2 case control studies examining the association	Systematic review and meta-analysis	China, Brazil, United States of America, Denmark and Netherlands	Quantitative comparison in different age groups (children 3-8 years old, adolescents 9-18 years old and adults >19 years old)	Cesarean delivery was associated with 32% higher risk of childhood overweight/obesity occurrence (3-8 years of age)
Pei et al. 2014 ²²	3,097 healthy full-term neonates (gestational age >37 weeks and birth weight >2500 g)	Birth cohort study (LISAplus)	Munich, Leipzig, Wesel, and Bad Honnef, Germany	Follow-ups at 2, 6 and 10 years, including anthropometric measurements evaluation	Children born via cesarean section were at higher risk of developing obesity only at the age of two years
Kuhle et al. 2015 ¹⁸	4 case control, 19 cohort, and 5 cross sectional studies examining the association	Systematic review and meta-analysis	China, Brazil, United States of America, Denmark, Netherlands, Canada, Greece, Sri Lanka, Iran, Hong Kong, Poland and Germany	Quantitative comparison in children aged 2-15 years (mean age: 6 years)	Children born via caesarean section had 34 % higher risk of developing childhood obesity
Portela et al. 2015 ⁶	672 mother-baby pairs	Prospective cohort study	Feira de Santana, Brazil	Follow-up at 6 years	Cesarean section was a statistically significant factor for overweight/obesity occurrence at age 6 years