Table 3: Studies in the literature examining the associations between gestational diabetes mellitus and childhood overweight/ obesity occurrence.

Source	Study Sample	Type of Study	Location	Follow-up Period Study Design	Study Results
Catalano et al. 2009 ³⁶	89 mother-off- spring dyads	Prospective case-control study	United States of America	Follow up between 6 and 11 years of age of children, for body composition evaluation	Even though there existed a statistically significant difference on the BMI z-score in the exposed and unexposed to gestational diabetes mellitus children, the strongest predictor of childhood obesity seemed to be maternal pregravid BMI
Nehring et al. 2013 ¹⁰	7,355 mother- child dyads (mean age of children: 5.8 years)	Retrospective cohort study (Perinatal Pre- vention of Obesity)	Bavaria, Germany	Data collection about the perina- tal environment retrospectively, through the use of questionnaires	A statistically significant association was found between maternal ges- tational diabetes mellitus and over- weight and obesity in children
Zhao et al. 2015 ³⁵	2,833 term-born children aged 1-10 years and their mothers	Retrospective study	Yunnan province, China	Data collection about the perina- tal environment retrospectively, through telephone interviews	Offsprings exposed to gestational diabetes mellitus had a higher prevalence of overweight and obesity in ages 5-10 years
Zhao et al. 2016 ⁹	4,740 children aged 9-11 years	Cross-sectional study (ISCOLE)	Australia, Brazil, Can- ada, China, Colombia, Finland, In- dia, Kenya, Portugal, South Africa, the UK and the USA	Data collection about the perina- tal environment retrospectively, through the use of questionnaires	Intrauterine exposure to gestational diabetes mellitus was a statistically significant risk factor for the development of central obesity in ages 9-11 years

BMI: Body Mass Index