



Healthcare Provider Discussions about Smoking During Pregnancy in Florida, 2000-2001

Smoking during pregnancy is associated with adverse health outcomes for both mothers and infants, such as preterm labor, low birth weight, and infant mortality. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recommends that healthcare providers screen all pregnant women at the first prenatal care visit for smoking and counsel all smokers about the impact of smoking during pregnancy.

According to Florida PRAMS 2000 and 2001 survey data, during prenatal care visits, healthcare providers discussed the effects of smoking during pregnancy with 70.5 percent of women. The prevalence of having such a discussion during a prenatal care visit in Florida was:

- The lowest among non-Hispanic White women (67.5), 77.8 percent among non-Hispanic Black women, and 71.1 percent among Hispanic women.
- Lower as maternal age increased. In particular, 86.2 percent among women age 19 and younger, 78.2 percent among those age 20 to 24, 64.6 percent among women between the ages of 25 and 34, and 63.4 percent among those 35-years-old and over.
- Lower as maternal education increased. In particular, 84.7 percent among women with less than a high school education, 74.6 percent among those with a high school education, and 61.5 percent among those with more than a high school education.
- Lower as annual household incomes increased. In particular, 80.1 percent among women with household incomes of \$15,600 or less, 68.2 percent among women with household incomes between \$15,601 and \$39,600, and 58.7 percent among those with household incomes over \$39,600.
- Higher among women who smoked cigarettes either before pregnancy (86.7 percent) or during pregnancy (89.1 percent) than among their nonsmoking counterparts (66.4 percent and 68.8 percent, respectively).
- Higher among Medicaid recipients (80.4 percent) than among non-Medicaid recipients (63.4 percent).
- Higher among WIC recipients (81.6 percent) than among non-WIC recipients (62.7 percent).
- Higher among unmarried women (81.1 percent) than among married women (64.4 percent).
- Higher among women with unintended pregnancies (75.1 percent) than among those with intended pregnancies (66.7 percent).
- Higher among first-time mothers (74.8 percent) than among their multiparous counterparts (67.1 percent).
- Higher among women who were aware of their pregnancies during the first trimester (82.4 percent) than among those who were unaware of their pregnancies until after the first trimester (69.1 percent).
- Higher among hospital clinics (79.5 percent), health department clinics (84.2 percent), and community health centers (56.5 percent) than among private doctors' offices or HMO clinics (66.0 percent); and 78.8 percent among birthing centers.

This study shows that healthcare providers are less likely to discuss the effects of smoking during prenatal care visits with pregnant women who are non-Hispanic Whites, are age 25 and older, have higher levels of education or income, are non-Medicaid or non-WIC recipients, are married, have intended pregnancies, have previously given birth to a live-born infant, are aware of their pregnancies after the first trimester, and/or acquire prenatal care from private doctors' offices or HMO clinics. These findings may assist healthcare providers in preventing the incidence of maternal cigarette smoking during pregnancy through related discussions and counseling with pregnant women during prenatal care visits.

The Florida Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a random survey of recent mothers of live-born infants. It is designed to monitor the physical, economic, and social health of Florida mothers and newborns. PRAMS data are "weighted" so that the resulting estimates can be generalized to the entire state population. PRAMS data from 2000 and 2001 were combined to increase sample size and precision of estimates for this study.

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