

COUNSELING RECEIVED DURING PRENATAL CARE

Prenatal care visits are an opportunity for a health care provider to discuss a variety of health and safety topics with the expectant mother. This can include such topics as injury prevention, genetic screening, infant care, and domestic violence.

In 2009-2010, more than three quarters of recent mothers in a 30-state area reported that their doctor had discussed at least one of the following topics with them during a prenatal visit: safe use of medications while pregnant (88.8 percent), genetic testing (86.7 percent), what to do in the case of early labor (82.2 percent) and signs of preterm labor (78.5 percent). Illegal drug use was

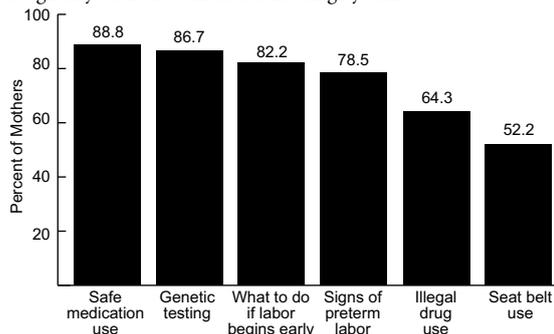
discussed with 64.3 percent of expectant mothers, while approximately half (52.2 percent) received counseling on seat belt use. Public health efforts to increase prenatal counseling on seat belt use remain critical for reducing the number of traffic related deaths and hospitalizations that occur during pregnancy.⁹¹

Alcohol use was more likely to be discussed with those who had Medicaid coverage than any other type of insurance. Women with private insurance (62.3 percent) were the least likely to receive counseling on smoking during pregnancy compared to women with Medicaid coverage, other types of insurance, or no insurance (82.6, 75.2, and 70.1 percent, respectively).

Physical abuse by a husband or partner was discussed with half of all women. Women with private insurance (40.7 percent) were the least likely to have received counseling on this issue, while women with Medicaid coverage were the most likely (61.5 percent). The proportion of women to receive counseling on domestic abuse also varied by maternal age, ranging from 61.7 percent of women aged 19 years or younger to about 43 percent of women aged 30 years and older (data not shown). Studies have shown that women in need of counseling on domestic abuse, breastfeeding, and preterm labor are not more likely to receive this information than those without reported risk factors, such as having had a previous preterm birth.⁹²

Topics Discussed by Health Care Provider During Prenatal Care Visits, 2009–2010*

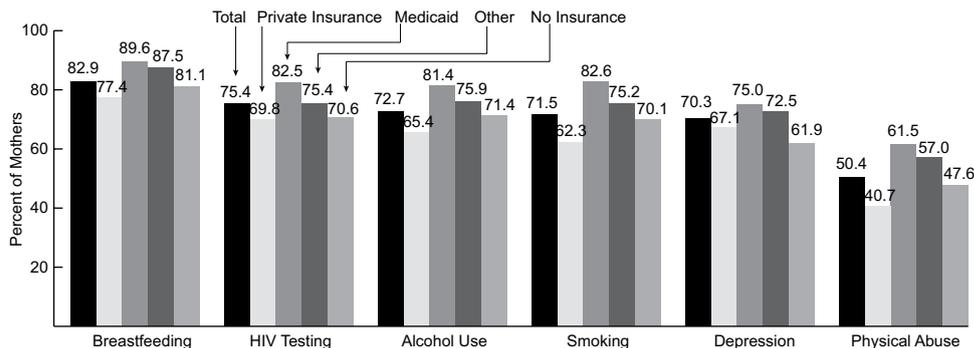
Source (III.2): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System



*Includes data from a total of 30 states and New York City; 25 states contributed both years. Mothers completed surveys between 2 and 9 months postpartum.

Topics Discussed by Health Care Provider During Prenatal Care Visits, by Insurance Type, 2009–2010*

Source (III.2): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System



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