

Facts:



Health Promotion Unit
Tobacco Use Prevention Program
1-866-726-9926 (toll free)

Pregnancy and Smoking

Causes

- Missouri had the 8th highest smoking prevalence rate among pregnant women in the nation in 2002.¹
- In Missouri, 18.2 percent (13,895) of the pregnant women (76,960) reported smoking during their pregnancy in 2003.²
- In 2003, 19.2 percent (12,141) of pregnant white women and 14.1 percent (1,551) of pregnant African-American women smoked during their pregnancy.²
- 34.3 percent of white Missouri pregnant females aged 18-19 smoked during pregnancy in 2003. 28.3 percent of white Missouri pregnant females aged 15-17 smoked during pregnancy in 2003.²

Effects

- ✓ In Missouri, Smoking during pregnancy caused more than \$10 million in preventable neonatal expenditures in 1996.³
- ✓ Women who smoke during pregnancy are more likely than nonsmokers to have a miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy.⁴
- ✓ Up to eight percent of all babies who die less than a week after birth die because of problems caused by their mothers' smoking during pregnancy.⁵
- ✓ Babies born to smokers are 1.5-3.5 times more likely to have low birthweights than babies born to nonsmoking mothers. Low-birthweight babies are at risk for serious health problems throughout their lives.⁵
- ✓ Risk for preterm delivery almost doubles (from 1.2 to 2.0). Women who stop smoking during the first trimester of pregnancy reduce the risk for preterm delivery to nearly that of nonsmoking women.⁶
- ✓ Smoking increases the risk of stillbirth by 40-60 percent.⁶
- ✓ The risk for sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) increases three-fold for mothers who smoke during and after pregnancy and two-fold for mothers who smoke only after delivery. Risk increases with increase in tobacco dose.⁶

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References:

¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Smoking During Pregnancy – United States, 1990-2002. MMWR 2004; 53: 911-915.

²Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; Birth statistics for the state of Missouri:

www.dhss.state.mo.us/cgi-bin/birthcountyax. Accessed 12/27/04.

³Centers for Disease Control & Prevention; States Estimates of Neonatal Health-Care Costs Associated With Maternal Smoking – United States, 1996. MMWR, 2004;53:915-917.

⁴Centers for Disease Control & Prevention; Preventing Chronic Diseases: Investing Wisely in Health; Preventing Smoking During Pregnancy; www.cdc.gov/nccdphp.

⁵Centers for Disease Control & Prevention; Preventing Chronic Diseases: Investing Wisely in Health; Preventing Smoking During Pregnancy; www.cdc.gov/nccdphp.

⁶U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Women and Smoking: A Report of the Surgeon General*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health. 2001. www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgrpage.htm Accessed May 19, 2003.

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