

evaluate the frequency of influenza during pregnancy over time and its association with maternal morbidity and mortality.

STUDY DESIGN: A repeated cross-sectional analysis of pregnant women 15-54 years using the National (Nationwide) Inpatient Sample from 2000 to 2015. The primary outcome included 21 indicators of severe maternal morbidity (SMM) during delivery hospitalization excluding transfusion per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention criteria, as well as individual outcomes associated with influenza morbidity: ventilation/tracheostomy, sepsis/shock, and adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). We analyzed the risk of SMM by annual flu seasons, reporting trends as average annual percent change (AAPC). We determined the association between influenza and maternal morbidity using log-linear regression, adjusting for demographic, hospital, and maternal factors.

RESULTS: Among 62.6 million deliveries with a SMM rate of 67 per 10,000, the SMM rate was over 3 times higher with versus without influenza (208 versus 66 per 10,000, $p < 0.01$). The risk of SMM increased steadily with an influenza diagnosis compared to those without (AAPC of 5.3% [95% CI: 3.6, 7.1] vs. 2.4% [95% CI: 0.8, 4.0] respectively) [Figure]. Influenza during pregnancy was associated with a two-fold increased risk of SMM (adjusted risk ratio, aRR=2.08, 95% CI: 2.01, 2.15), as well as ventilation/tracheostomy (aRR=6.04, 95% CI: 5.14, 7.09, sepsis/shock (aRR=3.23, 95% CI: 2.80, 3.71), and ARDS (aRR=5.76, 95% CI: 5.37, 6.18) [Table].

CONCLUSION: Pregnant women with influenza are at higher risk of SMM, and this risk has increased over time across the U.S. Continued efforts of increasing universal influenza vaccination in pregnancy and identifying which pregnant women with influenza are at the highest risk of adverse outcomes should be a public health priority to improve maternal health and reduce morbidity and mortality.

Figure: Rate of Severe Maternal Morbidity (SMM) and Influenza in Pregnancy among Delivery Hospitalizations in the US, 2000-2015

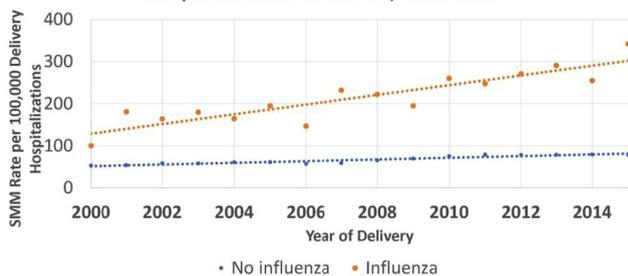


Table: Association between influenza in pregnancy and severe maternal morbidity (SMM) in the US National Inpatient Sample, 2000-2015

Severe Maternal Morbidity	Flu (+)*	Flu (-)*	aRR**	95% CI
SMM (excluding transfusion)	208.5	66.3	2.08	2.01, 2.15
Sepsis/Shock	10.9	2.4	3.23	2.80, 3.71
Ventilator/Tracheostomy	8.5	0.8	6.04	5.14, 7.09
Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome	44.6	4.4	5.76	5.37, 6.18

*Rate per 10,000 deliveries

**Reference group are non-influenza deliveries; Analysis adjusted for demographic (race, age, payer, income quartile), clinical (mode of delivery, abruptio, hypertension, multiple gestation, stillbirth, diabetes, Lupus, asthma, renal disease), and hospital (region, teaching status/location) factors

40 Assessing the association between BMI and blood pressures measured at alternative locations in obstetric patients



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OBJECTIVE: In patients with obesity the distribution of subcutaneous tissue can make blood pressure (BP) measurements on the upper arm (UA) difficult. In these cases, alternative locations such as the wrist (WR) and forearm (FA) are commonly used. It is unknown if there is a discrepancy between these measurements for pregnant patients at extremes of body mass index (BMI). We hypothesize that BP measurements on the FA and WR will differ from the UA and this difference will be larger at greater BMIs.

STUDY DESIGN: This is a prospective observational study of pregnant patients from July to August 2019. Study subjects had biometric measurements and 3 BP measurements (systolic BP – SBP and diastolic BP - DBP) taken at the UA, FA and WR. Measurements at the FA and WR were considered alternative locations and compared to the UA. Patients were stratified by BMI. Agreement among locations was assessed by Bland Altman analysis. Linear regression was used to assess the blood pressure discrepancy dependence on BMI.

RESULTS: A total of 100 patients were included, 20 from each BMI class. Using Bland Altman plots, it was observed that BP measurements at each site correlated but were discrepant. For the FA, there was an upward bias of 11.5 mmHg (limits of agreement [LOA]: +30.7 to -7.8) for SBP and 11.2 mmHg (LOA:+25.9 to -2.9) for DBP as compared to the UA. For the WR, there was an upward bias of 7.1 mmHg (LOA: +35.1 to -20.9) for SBP and 7.3mmHg (LOA:+26.2 to -11.7) for DBP as compared to the UA. Overall, there was a larger discrepancy in BP measurements with increasing BMI. For the FA compared to the UA, the discrepancy of SBP increased by 0.43 mmHg ($p < 0.001$) and of DBP increased by 0.18 mmHg ($p = 0.02$) for each unit of BMI over 25. There was no statistically significant change in the discrepancy of SBP or DBP in the UA versus the WR measurements based on BMI.

CONCLUSION: This study highlights that BP measurements are higher when taken at alternative locations, such as the WR and FA, and that FA BP measurements are higher than UA measurements with each BMI unit above 25.

41 In vitro human myometrial contractility in pregnancies complicated with obesity



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OBJECTIVE: The onset of parturition in pregnant women with obesity is frequently delayed. Without induction, these women are nearly twice as likely as normal-weight women to have prolonged pregnancies. Obesity has been shown to be an independent risk factor for cesarean birth, even after controlling for birth weight. It has been suggested that myometrial contractility is impaired in women with obesity. In this study we aimed to investigate whether contractility is truly reduced in women with obesity compared to their normal-weight counterparts utilizing an in vitro experiment model.

STUDY DESIGN: Myometrial strips alongside the upper part of the low transverse uterine incisions were obtained at the time of the cesarean birth from 22 healthy, non-laboring, pregnant women, scheduled for elective cesarean birth at term. Strips were transferred to the laboratory and underwent dissection into tissue samples, each approximately 5 mm long, 2 mm wide, and 1 mm thick. In isolated muscle tissue baths, each tissue was attached to a stationary hook and the