Update: Scientific Research and U.S. Federal Activities on Drugs, Vaccines, Vitamins, and Other Supplements for Pregnant and Lactating Women

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Presentation Overview

• Scientific Literature
• U.S. and International Funding Sources in Research Literature
• U.S. Federal Activities
Updates since August Task Force Meeting

- Added 3 new conditions to literature analysis –
  - Asthma
  - Nausea and vomiting/ hyperemesis
  - Low milk supply

- Added vitamins, herbals, supplements to literature, federal activities

- Quantified research gaps identified in August meeting of the Task Force

- Completed funding data
Literature: Introduction, Objectives, and Methods
Objectives

1) Quantify the literature by condition, type of research, and subtopic;
2) Identify gaps by condition, type of research, and subtopic;
3) Determine funding sources for original research.

Note: Did not address rigor or quality of research studies
Scope and Methods

- PubMed searches, January 2006 to August 2017
  - Population: pregnant and/or lactating women
  - 15 Conditions/categories
  - Therapies:
    - Drugs/pharmaceuticals
    - Vitamins and other supplements

- Titles, abstracts, and articles reviewed
  - Screen out false positives
  - Classify by research type
  - Identify funding source (for original research only)

- MeSH and text analysis, then review, to identify articles by subtopics

- 24,969 articles reviewed; 13,628 unique articles in final database
Research Types

- Basic/pre-clinical (Original Research)
- Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic -- PK/PD (Original Research)
- Population and database -- large scale or population-representative data (Original Research);
- Randomized controlled clinical trials – RCT (Original Research)
- Case series or cohort study (Original Research)
- Case report
- Review
- Editorial/commentary
- Other – original research not otherwise classified (Original Research)
Conditions

1. Asthma (Added since August TF meeting)
2. Autoimmune diseases*
3. Cancer
4. Central nervous system disorders
5. Diabetes (all types)
6. Endocrine disorders*
7. Hypertensive disorders
8. Infectious diseases
9. Low milk supply (Added since August TF meeting)
10. Mental health
11. Nausea and vomiting/hyperemesis gravidarum (Added since August TF meeting)
12. Pain
13. Preterm birth
14. Substance abuse
15. Vaccines

* Excludes diabetes
Literature: Updated Results
Basic/Pre-clinical
- Cancer; Diabetes; Hypertension; Substance Abuse
- Autoimmune; Low Milk Supply; Pain

RCT
- Low milk supply; Pain; Preterm labor; Vaccines
- Asthma; Autoimmune; Cancer; CNS; Endocrine; Mental Health

PK/PD
- Infection
- All other conditions
Proportion of Pubs = supplements
Publications that Address Lactation

All Publications
4.9 lactation

95.1 pregnancy only

Original Research
3.7 lactation

96.3 pregnancy only
Specific Disorders Common in Pregnant and Lactating Women, Yet Under-represented in Research Literature

- Chronic pain
- Lupus
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Migraine headache
- Spinal cord injury
- Nausea/vomiting
- Bipolar
- Cocaine
- CMV infection
- MS
- Group B strep
- Amph/ meth
- Malaria
- Low milk supply
- Anxiety
- Asthma
- Urinary tract infections
- Schizophrenia
- Type 1 diabetes
- Stroke
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis A
Number of Publications in Other Gap Areas Identified in August TF Meeting

- PK/PD: n=169; 1.2%
- Placental transport: n=28, 0.2%
- Late-emerging effects of prenatal exposure: n=31, 0.2%
- Impact of untreated disease
- New drugs for pregnancy-specific conditions: n ~ 0
Funding Sources
Types of Funding Sources for Original Research on Therapies for Pregnant and Lactating Women

- No funding acknowledged: 49.5%
- NIH: 18.1%
- Other US gov't: 3.2%
- Foreign gov't: 20.0%
- Industry: 3.1%
- Nonprofit and other: 12.8%

Note: some articles acknowledged more than one type of funding.
Variation in Funding Sources Across Categories

• Vaccines:
  • Lowest proportion of articles without acknowledged funders

• Infectious diseases:
  • Higher proportion with gov’t and foreign gov’t funding

• Substance abuse and Preterm birth:
  • Higher proportion with NIH funding

• Cancer, CNS, Autoimmune, Asthma:
  • Higher proportions from disease-specific nonprofits not related to pregnancy
Country of Origin for Government and Nonprofit Funding Sources

**Key gov’t funders:**
- NIH (USA)
- MRC (UK)
- CIHR (Canada)
- NSF (China)
- CNPq (Brazil)
- NHMRC (Australia)
Update: U.S. Federal Government Activities
U.S. Federal Activities: Research

• Prenatal exposure
  • Potential toxicology of drugs and devices
  • Environmental exposure
  • Occupational exposures
  • Military exposure

• Effects of prenatal exposure on both woman and fetus
• Wide range of efforts, although congenital anomalies are an area of focus
U.S. Federal Activities: Research

• Safety and efficacy of therapies
  • Preclinical research
  • PK/PD
  • Cohort/observational
  • Clinical trials
  • Vaccine safety
  • Global health
U.S. Federal Activities: Research

• Utilization and Quality of Care:
  • Effects of federal programs
  • Coordination of care for individuals in federal programs
  • Dissemination of evidence-based practices
  • Medication use
  • Maternal Immunization
  • Large databases
U.S. Federal Activities: Health Care and Clinical Practice

- Federal programs: Medicaid, VA, TRICARE, FQHCs, MCH block grants, others
- USPSTF
U.S. Federal Activities: Communications

Focus areas include:
- Breastfeeding
- Maternal immunization
- Postpartum depression
- Substance abuse/ opioids
thank you