

VACCINES IN PREGNANCY

Concentration on the COVID-19 Vaccine


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COVID-19 AND PREGNANCY IN TENNESSEE

- Among all infant born to TN residents from 3/1/2020-8/31/2021, 5.4% had evidence of maternal COVID-19 in pregnancy
- ICU admission at delivery were 4x higher among women with COVID-19 in pregnancy as those without (0.4% vs 0.1%)
- There have been 5 confirmed deaths due to COVID-19 in pregnancy through 8/31/21 - All 5 deaths had no documentation of COVID-19 vaccination

WHY GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE DURING PREGNANCY?



- Reduction of maternal mortality or morbidity
- Reduction of in-utero infection and fetal disease
- Conferring passive immunity to the newborn infant

RISKS OF COVID-19 INFECTION WHILE PREGNANT:

Maternal consequences

- Asymptomatic
- General symptoms
- Pneumonia
- Multiorgan dysfunction
- Thrombotic abnormalities
- Preeclampsia
- Hypertension
- Preterm rupture
- Preterm labor


Pregnant women with symptomatic COVID-19 have a 70% increased risk of death

Feto-neonatal consequences

- Prematurity
- Fetal distress
- Stillbirth
- Small for gestational age
- Reduced fetal movement
- Asphyxia
- Low birth weight

Placenta alterations


- Chorioamnionitis
- Thrombi in fetal vessels
- Multifocal infarctions



WHAT ABOUT BREASTFEEDING?

In a study of 53 women:

- **No** evidence of neonatal transmission in patients that have had COVID-19
- Evidence of antibody passage in patients with the vaccine
- Passive antibodies detected in breastmilk



HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

The vaccine is touted as more than 90% effective

- Meaning, if 10% of the unvaccinated group gets the disease only 1% of the vaccinated group gets the disease
- Disease course will be lessened
- Important in pregnant patients where T-cell function is compromised

WHAT ABOUT FERTILITY CONCERNS?

For women who received the COVID-19 Vaccine

- There is **NO** evidence linking the vaccine to infertility.

*However, males have an **increased** risk of fertility issues after being infected with COVID-19.*



The benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine outweigh any known or potential risk of vaccination during pregnancy.

Want to know more?

Scan the QR Code to listen to the full *Vaccines in Pregnancy: The Challenges of COVID-19* webinar

