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# Impacts of IPV: Peripartum Period

## Disclosures

I have no relevant disclosures to report

## Learning Objectives

- Learners will be able to define IPV and the types that exist
- Learners will be able to discuss the prevalence of IPV in pregnancy
- Learners will be able to discuss the impacts and mechanism of action of IPV in perinatal period

# Intimate Partner Violence(IPV) CDC Definition

IPV

 is a preventable public health problem: the term describes physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, and psychological aggression (including coercive acts) by a current or former intimate partner

Intimate partner

 is a person with whom one has a close personal relationship that can be characterized by the following: emotional connectedness, regular contact, ongoing physical contact and/or sexual behavior, identity as a couple or familiarity, and knowledge about each other's lives.

> Alhusen et. al, 2015 Chisholm et. al, 2017

## Types of IPV

# Physical Violence

•Intentional use of physical force with the potential for causing death, disability, injury or harm

#### Sexual Violence

- •Rape or penetration of victim
- Unwanted sexual contact
- Noncontact unwanted sexual experience

#### Stalking

•A pattern of repeated, unwanted, attention, and contact that causes fear or concern for one's own safety or the safety of someone else (eg, family member or friend).

# Psychological Aggression

•The use of verbal and nonverbal communication with the intent to harm another person mentally or emotionally and/or to exert control over another person.

### Prevalence in Peripartum Period

- Studies quote 3-9% IPV during pregnancy
  - Data from a 2009-2010 survey in a 30-state area found that 3.2% of pregnant women reported that they had been pushed, hit, slapped, kicked, choked, or physically hurt in some other way during their most recent pregnancy.
- In higher risk populations, rates as high as 50% are quoted
- PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System)
  - Rate of IPV during pregnancy lower than the year before

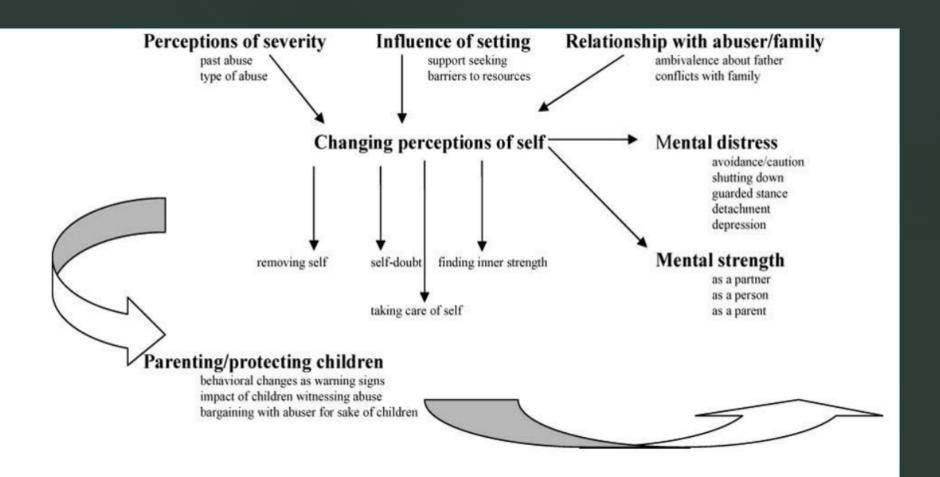


FIG. 1. Women's responses to IPV during pregnancy: Mental health impact.

# Impacts of IPV in Perinatal Period

**Health Behaviors** 

Mental Health Conditions

**Neonatal Outcomes** 

Morbidity and Mortality

#### Health Behaviors in IPV

#### Reduced Prenatal Care

Poor Nutrition and inadequate weight gain

#### Increase Substance use

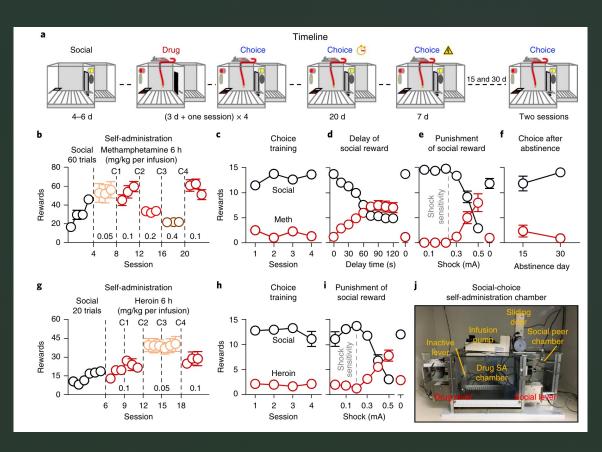
- Increase rates of tobacco smoking
- Increase rates of alcohol use
- · Increase rates of other substance use

#### Increase sexual risk taking

- Inconsistent condom use
- Partner non-monogamy
- Increase in STI's and UTI's

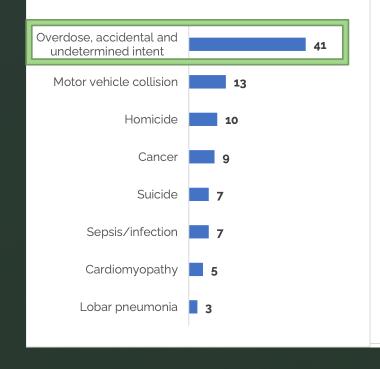
#### Animal Studies and Isolation

- Studies of rats found socially enriched environment predicted decrease in self-administration of methamphetamine and heroin
- Option of socialization also decreased likelihood of self-administration of both substances
- Administering a painful shock during social interaction increased chances of self-admin and nullified the social interaction benefit



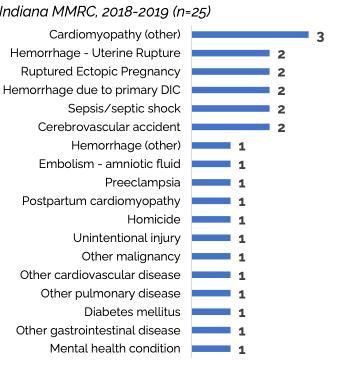
#### Pregnancy Associated Homicide Maternal Deaths Indiana





#### Figure 41: Overall Causes of Pregnancy-Related **Deaths**

Indiana MMRC, 2018-2019 (n=25)



#### Mental Health Outcomes and IPV

#### Depression

- 2.5x more likely to experience depressive symptoms
- 40% of abused women reporting depression

#### Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

- 19% and 84% of abused women reporting PTSD
- Often co-morbid with Depression

#### Suicide

- 2 deaths per 100,000 live births due to suicide
- 54% of pregnancy associated suicides had IPV present

## Functional Syndromes

- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Gastrointestinal symptoms
- Fibromyalgia
- Chronic pain syndromes
- These persist past the end of the IPV experience

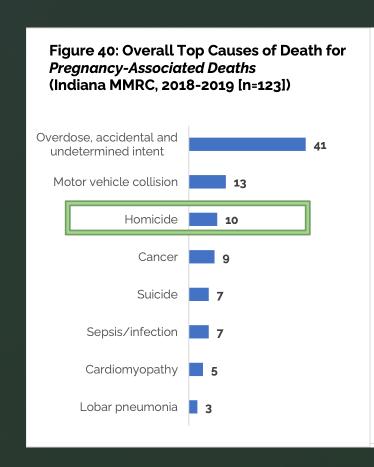
## Pregnancy Associated Homicide

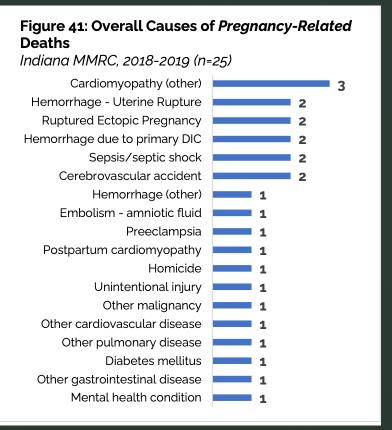
- 2.9 deaths per 100,000 live births
- Blunt force trauma is a leading cause of maternal death
- Black and brown individuals at higher risk of physical trauma in pregnancy
- Most pregnant people dying from homicide in perinatal period had hx of IPV

# Pregnancy Associated Homicide National Sample

	All pregnancy-associated homicides (n = 174)	IPV-related pregnancy- associated homicides (n=104)	Pregnancy-related deaths (n=1,617)
Age			
<20	20 (11.5)	11 (10.6)	58 (3.6)
20–24	61 (35.1)	33 (31.7)	215 (13.3)
25–29	40 (23.0)	25 (24.0)	295 (18.2)
30–34	30 (17.2)	19 (18.3)	329 (20.4)
35+	23 (13.2)	16 (15.4)	720 (44.5)
Race/ethnicity			
White, non-Hispanic	69 (39.7)	44 (42.3)	773 (47.8)
Black, non-Hispanic	80 (46.0)	41 (39.4)	610 (37.7)
Other	25 (14.4)	19 (18.3)	234 (14.5)
Timing of death			
Pregnancy	113 (64.9)	64 (61.5)	_
Postpartum	61 (35.1)	40 (38.5)	_
Weapon type			
Firearm	107 (64.1)	61 (60.4)	_
Sharp instrument	24 (14.4)	15 (14.9)	
Hanging, strangulation, suffocation	20 (12.0)	14 (13.9)	
Other	16 (6.5)	11 (10.9)	_
IPV related			
No, not available, unknown	70 (40.2)	<del>_</del>	_
Yes	104 (59.8)	<del></del>	

# Pregnancy Associated Homicide Maternal Deaths Indiana





#### Mechanism of Action

- Blunt force trauma can lead to negative outcomes associated with IPV
- Indirect Factors
  - Maternal coping behaviors (including substance use)
  - Inadequate or poor maternal nutrition
  - Isolation and poor or limited access to prenatal care
  - Elevated physical
  - Psychological stress levels
    - Dysregulation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis

#### Conclusions

- The true prevalence of IPV in pregnancy difficult to assess
- Having clear and consistent definition of IPV is key to better determination of prevalence
- There are several types of IPV to consider
- Impacts of IPV are felt in several aspects of a perinatal person's health, mental health, and risk of mortality
- There are several direct and indirect factors that affect perinatal individuals

#### References

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