



### Background

➤ The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that **all women who are pregnant (in any trimester) during flu season receive the flu vaccine**, citing concerns of excess morbidity and mortality among pregnant women due to influenza. In 2007 only **13% of pregnant women** nationwide reported flu vaccination (1). Research in other populations has shown that many pregnant women hold the misconceptions that they are not at increased risk for flu complications and/or that flu vaccine is contraindicated in pregnancy. (2) Obstetricians may not offer the vaccine or be concerned about safety issues or reimbursement (3).

### Objectives

➤ Investigate prenatal care provider discussion of flu vaccine in Los Angeles County (LAC) by sociodemographic and medical risk factors

### Methods

Secondary analysis of data from Los Angeles Mommy and Baby (LAMB) 2007 Survey, using patient recall of prenatal care discussions

**Participants:** Women who gave birth in LAC in 2007

**Design:** Population-based stratified sampling

**Procedure:** Surveys mailed to participants, with telephone follow-up. Offered in multiple languages.

**Flu Vaccine Question:**

“Here are some concerns that a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker may talk about during a prenatal care visit. Did they talk about these things with you? Please count only discussions, not reading materials or videos.”

Item G: “Getting a flu vaccine”: choose Yes, No, or Don’t Know

### Analysis

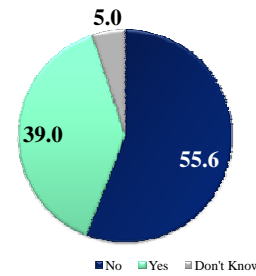
All data analyses were conducted using Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) version 9.1 survey procedures to account for the complex sampling scheme

•Descriptive analyses using both sampling and non-response weights were done to estimate the population prevalences

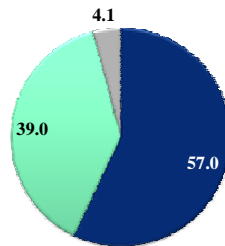
•Bi-variate analyses were done using the Rao-Scott Chi-Square statistic

### Results

#### All Respondents

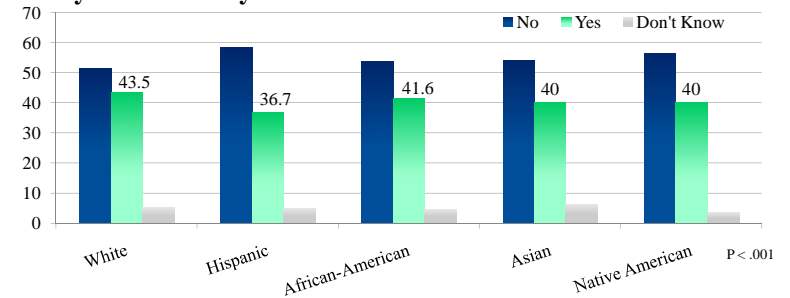


#### High-risk population\*



\*Pregnancy – includes anemia, heart problems, asthma, diabetes, and /or high blood pressure

#### By race/ethnicity



#### Medi-Cal vs. Private insurance

P < .0001

#### Medi-Cal Recipients by Place of Care

	Private Drs. Office	HMO	Public clinic	Hospital clinic
Yes	30.0	30.9	39.2	35.5
No	64.0	65.5	54.6	61.0
Don't know	6.0	3.6	6.2	3.5

P < .01

### Discussion

- Just 39% of LAC women who delivered a baby in 2007 reported discussing flu vaccine with prenatal care providers. An added area of concern is that even high-risk women were not more likely to have discussed flu vaccine.
- These results suggest the need to inform and empower pregnant women about the option of flu vaccine in pregnancy, and to engage providers in identifying barriers to flu immunization.
- Preliminary analysis indicates that certain groups may need special targeting: Latinas, Medi-Cal recipients, residents of Service Planning Areas 4 and 7, and patients receiving prenatal care at a private doctor’s office.
- Future research will target LAC prenatal care providers to assess knowledge, attitudes, practices, and barriers regarding flu immunization of pregnant women.

#### References

- (1) Prevention & Control of Influenza - Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) 2008. MMWR 2008 Aug 8; 57(RR07):1-60.
- (2) Yuden MH et al. Pregnant women’s knowledge of influenza and the use and safety of the influenza vaccine during pregnancy. J of Obstet Gyn Can. 2009; 31(2):120-125.
- (3) Obstetrician-gynecologists’ practices and perceived knowledge regarding immunization. Power et al. American Journal of Preventive Medicine. 2009; In Press. Corrected Proof, Available online 10 July 2009, <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6VHT-4WR5NNK-1/2/bdbe6a866760dd6afda687d34579fd0>.