

PROJECT BRIEF

Possible Complications of Infections during Pregnancy

Background

Preterm labor (PTL) is the leading cause of infant mortality in the industrialized world. It is a major cause of low birth weight that can lead to numerous severe complications for the infant. Research has shown that infections can be closely connected to preterm labor. Mycoplasma is one type of organism that causes infection and has not been widely studied. Determining whether Mycoplasma cause infection and subsequent preterm labor could lead to better prenatal care for women and fewer babies with the complications associated with preterm labor.

Objectives

The goals of this project are to:

- determine whether mycoplasmas are related to preterm delivery of a fetus,
- explore the prevalence of mycoplasma infections in women,
- gather information about other factors that influence the rate of mycoplasma infections and subsequent pregnancy complications, and
- examine how the preterm delivery rate varies in across different sites in the state.

Timeline

June 2007 – June 2009

Population

This project will be implemented at four locations around Wisconsin. Over 200 pregnant women will be examined in the Milwaukee area.

Funding Source

Wisconsin Network for Health Research (WiNHR)

WiNHR is a network of researchers interested in improving the health of Wisconsin through research. The partnership consists of researchers from Aurora/Center for Urban Population Health, UW-Madison, Gunderson Lutheran, and Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation.

Partners

*University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics
Gunderson Lutheran Medical Foundation
Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation
Aurora Health Care, Center for Urban
Population Health*

Local Investigators & Staff

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Center for Urban Population Health

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The Center for Urban Population Health is a partnership among the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Aurora Health Care, Inc. Our mission is advancing population health research and education to improve the health of urban communities.