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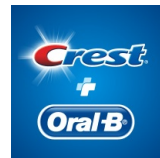


MCH News You Need

Your bi-weekly resource providing up-to-date news and insight in maternal and child health

January 9th, 2018

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH



Section
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Adding folic acid to corn Masa flour: Partnering to improve pregnancy outcomes and reduce health disparities

ELSEVIER

Author:

Alina L. Flores, Amy M. Cordero, Michael Dunn, Joseph E. Sniezka, Miguel A. Arcec, Krista S. Crider, Sarah Tinkera, Cynthia Pellegrini, Rita Carreón, Jose Estrada, Sara Struweg, Coleen Boyle

Although strides have been made in preventing neural tube defects (NTDs), Hispanic women remain more likely to have a baby born with an NTD and less likely to know the benefits of, or consume, folic acid than women of other race/ethnic groups.

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Update: Providing quality family planning services - Recommendations from CDC and the U.S. Office of Population Affairs, 2017

CDC

Author:

Loretta Gavin, PhD, Karen Pazol, PhD, Katherine Ahrens, PhD

In April 2014, CDC published "Providing Quality Family Planning Services: Recommendations of CDC and the U.S. Office of Population Affairs" (QFP), which describes the scope of services that should be offered in a family planning visit and how to provide those services (e.g., periodicity of screening, which persons are in need of services, etc.) (1). The sections in QFP include the following: Determining the Client's Need for Services; Contraceptive Services; Pregnancy Testing and

Counseling; Clients Who Want to Become Pregnant; Basic Infertility Services; Preconception Health Services; Sexually Transmitted Disease Services; and Related Preventive Health Services. In addition, the QFP includes an appendix entitled Screening Services for Which Evidence Does Not Support Screening.

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Importance of social determinants of health and cultural awareness in the delivery of reproductive health care

[ACOG](#)

Author:

Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women

Awareness of the broader contexts that influence health supports respectful, patient-centered care that incorporates lived experiences, optimizes health outcomes, improves communication, and can help reduce health and health care inequities.

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PRETERM BIRTH

Differences in morbidity and mortality rates in black, white, and hispanic very preterm infants among New York City hospitals

[JAMA Pediatr. 2018 Jan 2. doi: 10.1001/jamapediatrics.2017.4402](#)

Author:

Howell EA, Janevic T, Hebert PL, Egorova NN, Balbierz A, Zeitlin J

Substantial quality improvements in neonatal care have occurred over the past decade yet racial and ethnic disparities in morbidity and mortality remain. It is uncertain whether disparate patterns of care by race and ethnicity contribute to disparities in neonatal outcomes.

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Effects of vaginal progesterone for maintenance tocolysis on uterine electrical activity

[J Obstet Gynaecol Res. 2018 Jan 3. doi: 10.1111/jog.13545](#)

Author:

Lucovnik M, Trojner Bregar A, Bombac L, Gersak K, Garfield RE

The effectiveness of vaginal progesterone for maintenance tocolysis after arrested preterm labor remains controversial. Myometrial contractility can be assessed objectively and non-invasively after progesterone treatment by monitoring uterine electromyography (EMG). We examined the effects of vaginal progesterone on uterine EMG after successful acute tocolysis.

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NEONATOLOGY

A hybrid form of telemedicine: A unique way to extend intensive

care service to neonates in medically underserved areas

[Telemed J E Health. 2018 Jan 3. doi: 10.1089/tmj.2017.0155](#)

Author:

Makkar A, McCoy M, Hallford G, Escobedo M, Szyld E

More than 90% of neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) in the United States are in urban areas, denying rural residents' easy NICU access. Telemedicine use for patient contact and management, although studied in adults and children, is understudied in neonates.

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Influence of PCO₂ control on clinical and neurodevelopmental outcomes of extremely low birth weight infants

[Neonatology. 2018 Jan 4;113\(3\):221-230. doi: 10.1159/000485828](#)

Author:

Thome UH, Dreyhaupt J, Genzel-Boroviczeny O, Bohnhorst B, Schmid M, Fuchs H, Rohde O, Avenarius S, Topf HG, Zimmermann A, Faas D, Timme K, Kleinlein B, Buxmann H, Schenk W, Segerer H, Teig N, Ackermann B, Hentschel R, Heckmann M, Schlösser R, Peters J, Rossi R, Rascher W, Böttger R, Seidenberg J, Hansen G, Bode H, Zernickel M, Mucbe R, Hummler HD, PHELBI Study Group

Of the 359 infants, 57 were classified as hypocapnic, 230 as normocapnic, 70 as hypercapnic, and 2 as fluctuating PCO₂. Hypercapnic infants had a higher average product of mean airway pressure and fraction of inspired oxygen (MAP × FiO₂). For this group, mortality was higher, as was the likelihood of having moderate/severe bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD), necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC), and poorer neurodevelopment. Multiple logistic regression analyses showed an increased risk for BPD or death associated with birth weight ($p < 0.001$) and MAP × FiO₂ ($p < 0.01$).

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BIRTH DEFECTS

Factors associated with folic acid knowledge and intake among pregnant women in Sudan

[East Mediterr Health J. 2017 Dec 14;23\(10\):662-669. doi: 10.26719/2017.23.10.662](#)

Author:

Alsammani MA, Kunna A, Adam EM

Preconceptional folic acid use is known to have a protective effect against neural tube defects (NTDs). This study assessed knowledge and determinants of awareness on folic acid use among pregnant women at Omdurman Maternity Hospital, Sudan during 2014. The standardized, anonymous questionnaire was used to collect data. Almost 80% of respondents had heard of folic acid.

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Zika virus infection in pregnancy: Maternal, fetal, and neonatal considerations

Author:

Zorrilla CD, García García I, García Fragoso L, De La Vega A

An infection with the Zika virus (ZIKV) is usually mild, with nonspecific symptoms and most often asymptomatic. However, because of its causal relationship with severe congenital malformations, the ZIKV epidemic became an imperative for mobilization, renewed strategies for vector control, and biomedical research.

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