

Dental Cleaning Before Pregnancy in Georgia

Several studies have suggested that maternal oral health has significant implications for birth outcomes and infant oral health.^{1,2,3} In fact, maternal periodontal disease has been associated with preterm birth, development of pre-eclampsia, and delivery of low birth weight infants.¹ Dental cleaning may prevent or retard the progression of periodontal disease.¹ We analyzed data from the Georgia Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) to assess the characteristics and birth outcomes of women who had their teeth cleaned during the 12 months before pregnancy. The Georgia Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a statewide survey of Georgia female residents who delivered a live birth in Georgia. Women are surveyed within 2-6 months of their deliveries. This surveillance system is conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in conjunction with the state. The survey collects information on maternal and child health before, during and after pregnancy. This analysis included data from GA PRAMS for 2009-2010.

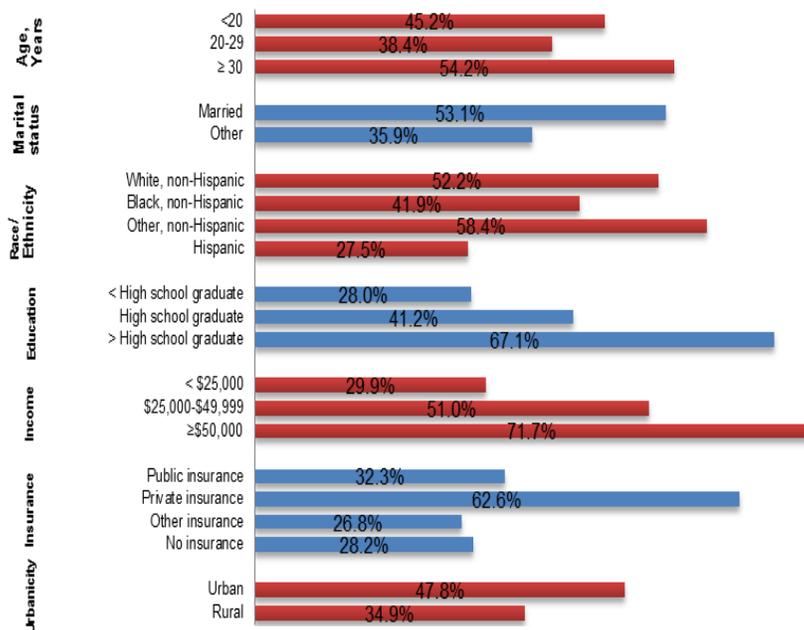
Characteristics of women who had their teeth cleaned during the 12 months before pregnancy

44.5% of new mothers had their teeth cleaned within 12 months before their pregnancy.

Dental cleaning pre-pregnancy was highest among women who:

- Were married
- Were 30 years of age or older
- Were Other race, non-Hispanic
- Had some college education
- Had an annual household income of \$50,000 or more
- Had private health insurance and lived in an urban area

Characteristics of Women who had their Teeth Cleaned during the 12 Months before Pregnancy, Georgia PRAMS 2009-2010



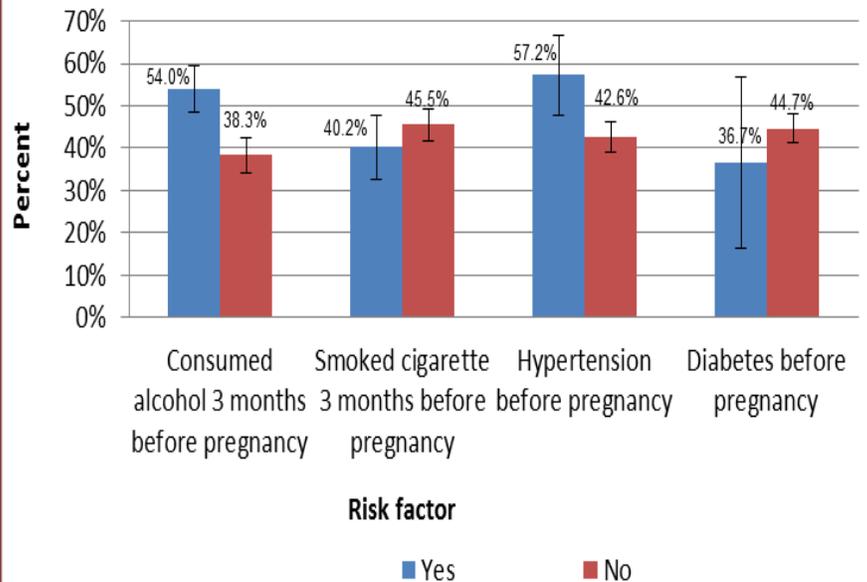
Dental Cleaning Before Pregnancy

Dental Cleaning by Risk Factors present before Pregnancy

When examining behaviors and diseases that may be related to woman having her teeth cleaned before pregnancy, we found that:

- Smoking status was not associated with having ones teeth cleaned before pregnancy, but alcohol use was.
- Diabetes was not associated with having ones teeth cleaned before pregnancy, but having hypertension was.

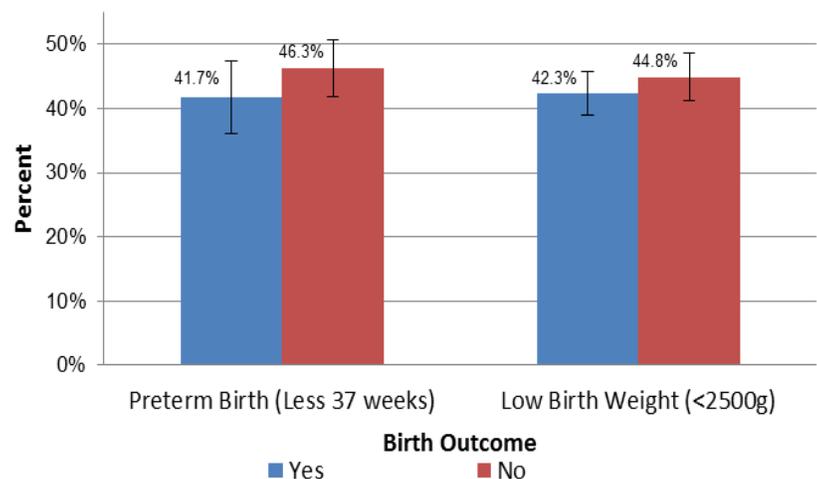
Mothers who Cleaned their Teeth by Selected Risk Factors, Georgia PRAMS 2009-2010



Dental Cleaning Before Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes

- We did not find that having ones teeth cleaned in the year prior to becoming pregnant to be associated with adverse birth outcomes like preterm birth or low birth weight.

Mothers who Cleaned their Teeth by Selected Birth Outcomes, Georgia PRAMS 2009-2010



References:

1. Boggess KA, Edelstein BL. Oral health in women during preconception and pregnancy: implications for birth outcomes and infant oral health. *Matern Child Health J.* 2006;10:S169-S174.
2. Jeffcoat MK, Geurs NC, Reddy MS, Cliver SP, Goldener RL, Hauth JC. Periodontal infection and preterm birth: results of a prospective study. *J Am Dent Assoc.* 2001;132:875-80.
3. Dasanayake AP. Poor periodontal health of the pregnant woman as a risk factor for low birth weight. *Ann Periodontol.* 1998;3:206-12.

We Protect Lives.