Vaccine Confidence

COVID-19 Infection Risk in Pregnancy

and evaluation of COVID-19 vaccines. This can be done by briefly highlighting the safety of vaccines and emphasize the fact that no steps were skipped in the development process. It is important to note that COVID-19 vaccine development and regulatory approval is a complex process that involves rigorous testing and oversight, and that the vaccines are heavily regulated by governmental organizations to ensure safety.

Many citing distrust as a concern (ACOG 2013). Similar to the general population, Black and Hispanic individuals are more likely to have severe illness with COVID-19 compared to non-Hispanic white patients (Mashruwala, 2021). Disparities in incidence of COVID-19 among Black women: evaluating perspectives and sources of information (Panagiotakopoulos et al., 2020). In addition, pregnant individuals who meet criteria for vaccination based on ACIP-recommended priority groups. While safety data on the use of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnancy are not currently available, available data suggest that symptomatic pregnant patients with COVID-19 are at increased risk of complications. Several vaccines have safely been given to pregnant and lactating individuals for decades. Safety monitoring continues well beyond the EUA administration. Expected side effects should be explained as part of counseling patients, including that they can be more severe in pregnant compared to non-pregnant women. Although rare, anaphylaxis and severe allergic reactions have been reported in people who have received COVID-19 vaccines.


Lactating Individuals

Opportunity to remind patients about the importance of other prevention measures such as mask wearing, hand hygiene, and social distancing. ACOG recommends that pregnant individuals should be free to make their own decisions about vaccination, but it is important to discuss the potential risks and benefits with the patient. On December 12, 2020, after an explicit, evidence-based review of all available data, the FDA approved emergency use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (BNT162b2) and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine (MRNA-1273) for individuals 16 years of age and older. The EUA allows for use of these vaccines before full approval by the FDA during the COVID-19 pandemic. Use Authorization (EUA)

On December 11, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an EUA for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (BNT162b2) and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine (MRNA-1273). Available data suggest that pregnant patients with COVID-19 are at increased risk of complications. Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (BNT162, PF-07302048). Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee. Available at: https://www.fda.gov/media/144246/download

Joint statement on ensuring racial equity in the development and distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine: A national early warning system to detect threatening diseases or conditions caused by CBRN threat agents when there are no surveillance data. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-providers/prevent-outbreaks CFR85CFR200.320.html

Expected side effects should be explained as part of counseling patients, including that they can be more severe in pregnant compared to non-pregnant women. Although rare, anaphylaxis and severe allergic reactions have been reported in people who have received COVID-19 vaccines. Continue to support patients who decide not to be vaccinated, share resources, and encourage others to talk about why they choose not to vaccinate.

For more information check the ACOG website for updates: https://www.acog.org/}

ACOG References

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Health equity considerations and racial and ethnic minority groups. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-manufacturer/Pzifer/reactogenicity.html


Emergency Use

For Patients

Continue to support patients who decide not to be vaccinated, share resources, and encourage others to talk about why they choose not to vaccinate.

Available data suggest that symptomatic pregnant patients with COVID-19 are at increased risk of complications. Several vaccines have safely been given to pregnant and lactating individuals for decades. Safety monitoring continues well beyond the EUA administration. Expected side effects should be explained as part of counseling patients, including that they can be more severe in pregnant compared to non-pregnant women. Although rare, anaphylaxis and severe allergic reactions have been reported in people who have received COVID-19 vaccines. Continue to support patients who decide not to be vaccinated, share resources, and encourage others to talk about why they choose not to vaccinate.
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