

Survey of Patients Smoking While Pregnant in a Rural Community: Practical Applications

AUTHOR(S): Klamath County Public Health, Rose Keppinger, RN, Becca Ferrer, RN

PRESENTATION FORMAT: 15 minute oral presentation

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Tobacco control coordinators (TPEP), SPArC funded programs, Maternal and Child Health

ABSTRACT: Klamath County has a high rate of women who smoke while pregnant, which is associated with significant health risks to mother and baby. As a result of Strategies for Policy and Environmental Change (SPArC) grant funding, and with the help of two student nurses, we were able to implement a survey to assess smoking while pregnant in our community. The survey was implemented at 5 prenatal clinics and received 254 unique responses. Results showed that clinicians were addressing this subject, but data was not being effectively captured in medical records. Data also demonstrated misinformation among women in our population and a limited capacity for cessation methods that were most likely to be utilized. In addition to using results to increase awareness of clinicians in our community regarding this problem, we are working to build capacity for one on one or specialized group cessation counseling to encourage a supportive, non-judgmental environment. With the initiatives following this study, we hope to see a reduction in tobacco use among pregnant women and new mothers, and to assess whether these tactics may also show a benefit when utilized in other populations.

OBJECTIVE(S): 1. Discuss results and implications of Klamath Falls' survey. 2. Compare current initiatives for education and cessation in this population to those indicated as most desired by this population

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Kristen Wils, MS

Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention Coordinator

Klamath County Public Health

Klamath Falls, OR

541-851-3717 | kwils@co.klamath.or.us