Effectiveness of Doula Care for Pregnant Women who are Incarcerated

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Disclosures

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Educational Goals & Objectives

1. Understand the unique challenges and health needs of incarcerated pregnant women

2. Know the role of doulas in providing care to women who are incarcerated and the impact of a doula program on health outcomes among women who receive this service

3. Be able to discuss the practice and policy implications of the key findings of the effectiveness of a prison doula program
U.S. State and Federal Prison Population, 1925-2014

2014: 1,508,636

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics Prisoners Series.
U.S. State and Federal Prison Population, 1925-2014

Number of People

1980: 13,258
1985: 23,099
1990: 43,845
1995: 68,544
2000: 85,044
2005: 98,688
2010: 104,629
2014: 106,232


Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics Prisoners Series.
Maternal Incarceration

- Environmental risks
- Physical health
- Mental health
- Chemical health
The Minnesota Prison Doula Project
What is a doula?
The Minnesota Prison Doula Project

Two Core Components

1. One-on-One Doula Support
2. Education and Support Groups
Program Outcomes

July 2011 – June 2016

- \( N = 67 \) pregnant and matched with doula
- Age: 20-41 yrs. (\( M = 28.0 \) yrs.)
- 42% white, 21% African American, 24% Native American, 7% Asian, 7% multiple races
- Education: \( M = 11.5 \) yrs.
## Mothers’ Visits with Doulas (N = 67)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visit type (target # of visits)</th>
<th>% met # of target visits</th>
<th>Visit length M (SD) hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prenatal (2)</td>
<td>83.6</td>
<td>0.9 (0.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth (1)</td>
<td>97.0</td>
<td>8.2 (4.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation (1)</td>
<td>92.5</td>
<td>3.8 (1.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postpartum (2)</td>
<td>88.1</td>
<td>1.0 (0.2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Having a doula there made my experience a good one, it helped a lot!! You have to find something positive about your birth experience while you’re in prison, and my doula helped me achieve that.
Mode of Delivery and Neonatal Outcomes \((N = 67)\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of delivery</th>
<th>(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spontaneous vaginal delivery</td>
<td>80.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operative vaginal delivery</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal birth after prior cesarean section</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled primary cesarean section</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled repeat cesarean section</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unscheduled intrapartum cesarean section</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neonatal outcomes</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preterm</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low birth weight</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gestational age: \(M = 39 \text{ weeks, 3 days} (SD = 11.13 \text{ days})\)
Birth weight: \(M = 7.48 \text{ pounds} (SD = 1.13)\)
Identifying a Comparison Group

- Identified as pregnant at prison
- Received prenatal care at prison
- Delivered in custody at local hospital
- Received one-on-one doula support during labor and delivery

• Identified as pregnant at prison
• Received prenatal care at prison
• Delivered in custody at local hospital
Identifying a Comparison Group

But how do we identify these women?

- Identified as pregnant at prison
- Received prenatal care at prison
- Delivered in custody at local hospital
- Received one-on-one doula support during labor and delivery

2007

2010

2016

- Identified as pregnant at prison
- Received prenatal care at prison
- Delivered in custody at local hospital
Data Sources

Minnesota Department of Corrections (MnDOC)

Minnesota Prison Doula Project (MnPDP)

Paper medical records

Intervention Clients
- Client name
- Client date of birth
- Delivery date
- Labor and delivery outcomes
Data Sources

Minnesota Department of Corrections (MnDOC)
- Paper medical records
- Historical billing records
- Offender identification number

Minnesota Prison Doula Project (MnPDP)
- Intervention Clients
  - Client name
  - Client date of birth
  - Delivery date
  - Labor and delivery outcomes

Client name
Client date of birth
Delivery date
Labor and delivery outcomes
Data Sources

- MnDOC
- MnPDP
- Hospital
MnDOC
MnPDP
Hospital

Paper medical records
Historical billing records
Offender identification number

Patient Admission Code

Intervention Clients
• Client name
• Client date of birth
• Delivery date
• Labor and delivery outcomes
MnDOC

MnPDP

Hospital

Intervention Clients
• Client name
• Client date of birth
• Delivery date
• Labor and delivery outcomes

Intervention Condition

Paper medical records
Historical billing records
Offender identification number
Offender name
Offender date of birth

Patient Admission Code
MnDOC

MnPDP

Hospital

- Paper medical records
- Historical billing records
- Offender identification number
- Offender name
- Offender date of birth
- Demographic characteristics
- Incarceration history

Patient Admission Code

InterventionClients
- Client name
- Client date of birth
- Delivery date
- Labor and delivery outcomes

Intervention Condition
MnDOC

MnPDP

Hospital

Patient Admission Code
Labor and delivery outcomes

Intervention Clients
- Client name
- Client date of birth
- Delivery date
- Labor and delivery outcomes

Intervention Condition

Paper medical records
Historical billing records
Offender identification number
Offender name
Offender date of birth
Demographic characteristics
Incarceration history
Challenges & Limitations

- MnDOC paper records were non-existent or incomplete
- Patients must consent to have EHR used for research
- Admission code was unreliable
- Historical billing records were not specific
- Ob/Gyn EHR unavailable before 2005
- Identifying the “target birth” was difficult
  - Multiple periods of incarceration
  - Multiple births within health system
- Data sharing agreement was limiting
Conclusions & Next Steps

- Data cleaning and analysis
- Cost analysis
- National network – training and technical assistance
- ACCJH Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health 2019 Conference
Questions?