Conclusions:

Many adverse pregnancy outcomes can be prevented by seeking early prenatal care. Major contributors to delayed care include no insurance, poor financial resources to pay for services, or not participating in the Medicaid program.

METHODS:

A sample of 1,009 women from 2006 PRAMS Survey was collected, analyzed from mothers with live birth from Feb-Sept 2006. SPSS Complex samples Version 16.0 was used to obtain descriptive statistics.

Results:

Approximately 25% of pregnant women reported they did not receive prenatal care during the 1st trimester.

Background:

Adverse pregnancy outcomes including preterm delivery and infant death remain high in MS. Delayed prenatal care has been identified as a major risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes.

Public Health Implications:

The development of interventions increasing early access to prenatal care among MS women could result in reducing preterm delivery and infant deaths.

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