

Low-Income Pregnant Women's Experiences with Prenatal Care and Education

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Significance

- US ranks 29th globally in maternal and infant mortality rates
- Infant mortality rate in Philadelphia Pa reflects this statistic with 9.3 infant deaths per 1000 live births.
- Despite Healthy People 2020 critical goals to improve the use of prenatal education and care disparities persist regarding access and quality of prenatal care and education.

Purpose

☐ Explore the perinatal experiences of low-income urban women regarding their experiences with prenatal and postnatal experience with prenatal and postnatal care and education.

Methodology

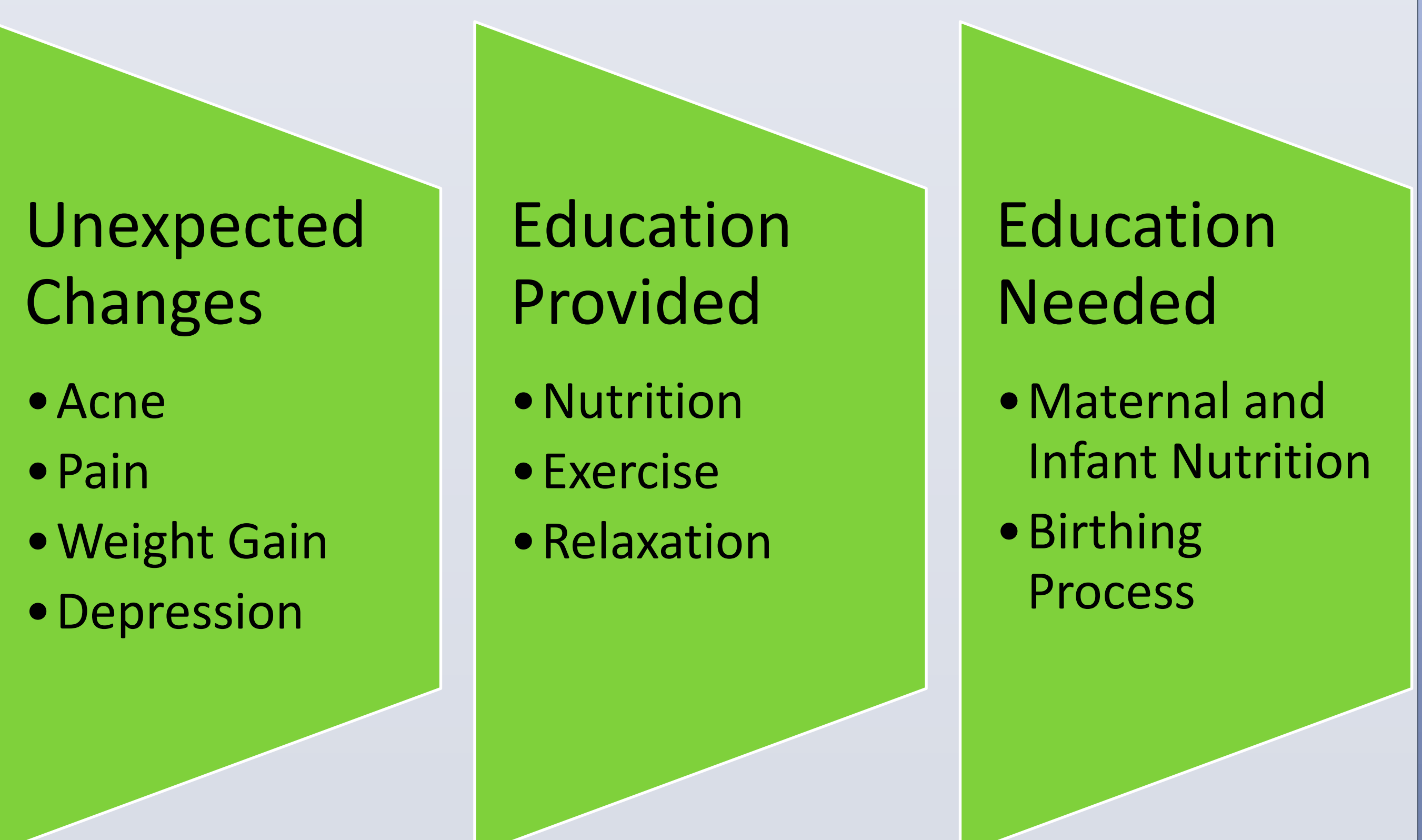
- Qualitative descriptive analysis of three open ended survey questions
- Surveyed 50 low income women who received prenatal and postnatal education services at 2 Catholic Social Service Family Service Centers in Chester and Norristown, Pa.
- 38 English speaking, 12 Spanish speaking
- Predominantly Black non-Hispanic



Research Questions

- What physical and psychological changes were most concerning and unexpected for you during the pregnancy and childbirth experience?
- What perinatal education from healthcare providers was most helpful in preparing for childbirth and parenting?
- What perinatal information was not provided by a healthcare provider but would have been helpful in preparing for childbirth and parenting?

Results



Recommendations

- Continue research related to prenatal and postnatal care and education
- Recognize women's desire and readiness to learn regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status
- Identify gaps in prenatal education and knowledge of pregnant women