BACKGROUND. Early identification of maternal disease and risks for complications of pregnancy or birth are the primary reasons for first trimester entry into prenatal care. This can help ensure that women with complex problems and women with chronic illness or other risks are seen by specialists if required. Early high quality prenatal care is critical to improving pregnancy outcomes (Hawaii PRAMS).

Figure 1 depicts the percent of live births of resident Native Hawaiian mothers who received prenatal care in the first trimester and those who received no care or care after the first trimester from 2000-2015. Also included are the Healthy People 2020 and the OHA benchmarks.

FINDINGS

- In 2014-15, the percent of Native Hawaiian mothers who received prenatal care in the first trimester decreased to 65% due to methodology changes. In 2014, the birth certificate started collecting the exact date prenatal care began (MM/DD/YYYY) as recorded in the medical record. Previously only the month was recorded as reported by the mother. The OHA 2018 strategic result was based on pre-2014 methodology.
Hawai‘i Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS): A survey project funded by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) in collaboration with the Hawai‘i Department of Health, Office of Health Status Monitoring (OHSM) to identify and monitor maternal behaviors and experiences before, during, and in the first few months after a live birth in Hawai‘i. The first full year of data was collected in 2000.

Healthy People 2020 (HP2020): A comprehensive report published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that provides national health goals and objectives on 42 topic areas for a 10-year period.

Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB): The governmental program in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) responsible for ensuring the health and well-being of women, infants, and children.

Prenatal Care: Prenatal care is medical attention given to the expectant mother and her developing baby. It also involves the mother’s caring for herself by following her health care provider’s advice, practicing good nutrition, getting plenty of rest, exercising sensibly, and avoiding things that could harm her or her baby (MCHB).

REFERENCES.


