

**Additional File 1:**

**Interview guide used with women in the qualitative component of the study “Factors associated with inadequate prenatal care among inner-city women in Winnipeg,” Principal Investigator: Dr. Maureen Heaman, College of Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba**

**Interview Guide: Pregnant and Postpartum Women**

We know that many factors play a role in determining whether women use prenatal care or not. Prenatal care includes visits to a doctor, midwife, or nurse practitioner, as well as community-based programs and services, such as prenatal classes and public health nurse visits. In this interview, I would like to talk to you about these factors - from your own thoughts about the need for prenatal care and what you expect of prenatal care to things that make it easy or difficult for you to access prenatal care.

I would like to begin by asking some questions about your pregnancy experience.

1. Tell me about what it is like for you to be pregnant?
  - Probe for feelings, attitudes toward pregnancy, problems/concerns, sources of help and support, perceived need for prenatal care, expectations of prenatal care
2. What prenatal services or programs have you used? [What kind of support have you received during this pregnancy?].
  - Probe re: physician, midwife visits, or nurse practitioner visits, prenatal classes, Healthy Baby Program, Healthy Start Program, Families First program, Antenatal Home Care Program, Internet resources, etc.
3. Why is it important for you to go to/be part of [fill in services/programs to which women refer]?
  - Probe re: perceived needs and expectations

I would like to go on and explore things that make it easy or difficult for you to use these services and programs.

4. What, if anything, makes it easy for you to go to/be part of [fill in services/programs to which women refer]?
  - Probe re: costs, childcare, transportation, attitude of care providers, etc.
  - [Can you tell me a story about a time when you received good prenatal care?]
5. What, if anything, makes it difficult for you to go to/be part of [fill in services/programs to which women refer]?
  - Probe re: costs, childcare, transportation, stressful life circumstances, etc.

- [Even though it has been a positive experience, can you tell me about something you were less happy about?]
  - [Can you tell me a story about a time when you received poor prenatal care?]
6. What do you like about the services/programs you have used?
- Probe re: extent to which needs are met, comfort level, nature of interactions with others attending or providing the service/program
7. Are there services or programs that you would like to use but can't?
- Probe re: perceived needs, expectations, barriers

Family and friends may also influence your use of prenatal care, by either encouraging or discouraging your use of services or programs, or providing other forms of information and advice.

8. What do your family and friends think about prenatal care? [What role do you family and friends play in your prenatal care?]
9. Have your family and friends encouraged you to use any particular services or programs?
- Probe re: which ones, perceived benefits
10. Have your family and friends discouraged you from using any particular services or programs?
- Probe re: which ones, why they were not encouraged
  - [How have your family & friend's beliefs influenced you?]
  - [Tell me about any cultural practices/beliefs important to your pregnancy or prenatal care]
  - [If yes, how sensitive is your care provider to your cultural beliefs?]

The neighborhood you live in may affect how easy or hard it is for you to access health care services.

11. Tell me a bit about your neighborhood. What, if anything, about your neighborhood makes it easier to get prenatal care? What, if anything, about your neighborhood makes it more difficult to get prenatal care? Are there any supports in your neighbourhood for pregnant women?

Past experiences with doctors, nurses and other health care providers may also play a role in how likely or unlikely people are to use prenatal services and programs.

12. Tell me a bit about your past experiences with doctors, nurses, and other health care providers?
- Probe re: perceived quality of care received, nature of the relationships, perceived benefits, negative aspects [Tell me about some good experiences/bad experiences]

13. How have these past experiences affected your use of prenatal care?

Finally, I would like to hear from you about prenatal services and programs you would like to see in your neighborhood.

14. How could current prenatal services and programs be improved to better meet the needs of women in your neighborhood? [If you could give the government money to do 3 things for pregnant women in your neighbourhood, what would it be for?]

15. Are there services or programs for pregnant women that you wish were available in your neighborhood but aren't?

Thank you for taking the time to talk with me. You have shared a lot of information that will help us better understand women's needs during pregnancy and how these can best be met. Is there anything else you would like to add?