



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

F O U N D A T I O N

Abstract of Study Funded with a Research Stimulation Grant in 2010

Breaking the cycle of adolescent pregnancy: Can mothers influence their daughters' contraceptive behavior? (G1012RS)

Principal Investigator: Justine P. Wu, MD MPH

Abstract

Background: Daughters of teenage mothers have a 66% higher risk of becoming teen parents themselves, thus perpetuating a cycle of adolescent motherhood. Among families that have experienced this phenomenon, we know little about how mothers may influence intergenerational contraceptive behavior. **Objectives:** The primary study aim is to explore how mothers who have experienced adolescent parenthood influence their daughters' contraceptive behavior. A secondary study aim is to identify factors relevant to designing an office-based intervention that incorporates maternal involvement to promote adolescent use of highly effective contraception. **Methods:** We will conduct qualitative, in-depth interviews of women recruited from a residency-affiliated family medicine office. Eligible women must be English speaking, report a history of teenage motherhood (gave birth to a child at age 20 years or younger) and report having a daughter(s) who is between the ages of 15-24. **Analyses:** We will conduct traditional content-based analyses until thematic saturation is reached. **Discussion:** This qualitative investigation will generate new data regarding maternal influences on adolescent contraceptive behavior, and how these interactions may contribute to or deter the cycle of teenage pregnancy. These findings will guide the next study phase, that is, to design and test an intervention that facilitates maternal involvement in their daughters' contraceptive decision-making and behavior. Themes identified in this analysis will likely have broader applicability to women of other ages. We will disseminate research findings via scientific publication(s) and presentations at national conferences.