

# Only half of pregnant women receive recommended vaccines

October 9 2019

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(HealthDay)—Many pregnant women do not receive the recommended

flu and tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccines to protect themselves and their infants, according to a *Vital Signs* report published in the Oct. 8 early-release issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Megan C. Lindley, M.P.H., from the CDC in Atlanta, and colleagues used surveillance data to determine influenza-associated hospitalization among [pregnant women](#) as well as infant hospitalization and death associated with influenza and pertussis. Additionally, an [online survey](#) was conducted (March 27 to April 8, 2019) among women who were pregnant any time since Aug. 1, 2018, to assess influenza vaccination status (2,097 respondents) and Tdap vaccination status (817 respondents).

The researchers found that from 2010-2011 to 2017-2018, pregnant women (aged 15 to 44 years) accounted for 24 to 34 percent of influenza-associated hospitalizations per season. There was a total of 3,928 pertussis-related hospitalizations reported among infants aged

Citation: Only half of pregnant women receive recommended vaccines (2019, October 9) retrieved 26 April 2024 from

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