



# Promoting Maternal Mental Health During and After Pregnancy

---



**MOPAP**  
For Moms





**MOPAP**  
For Moms





**MOPAP**  
For Moms





**MOPAP**  
For Moms

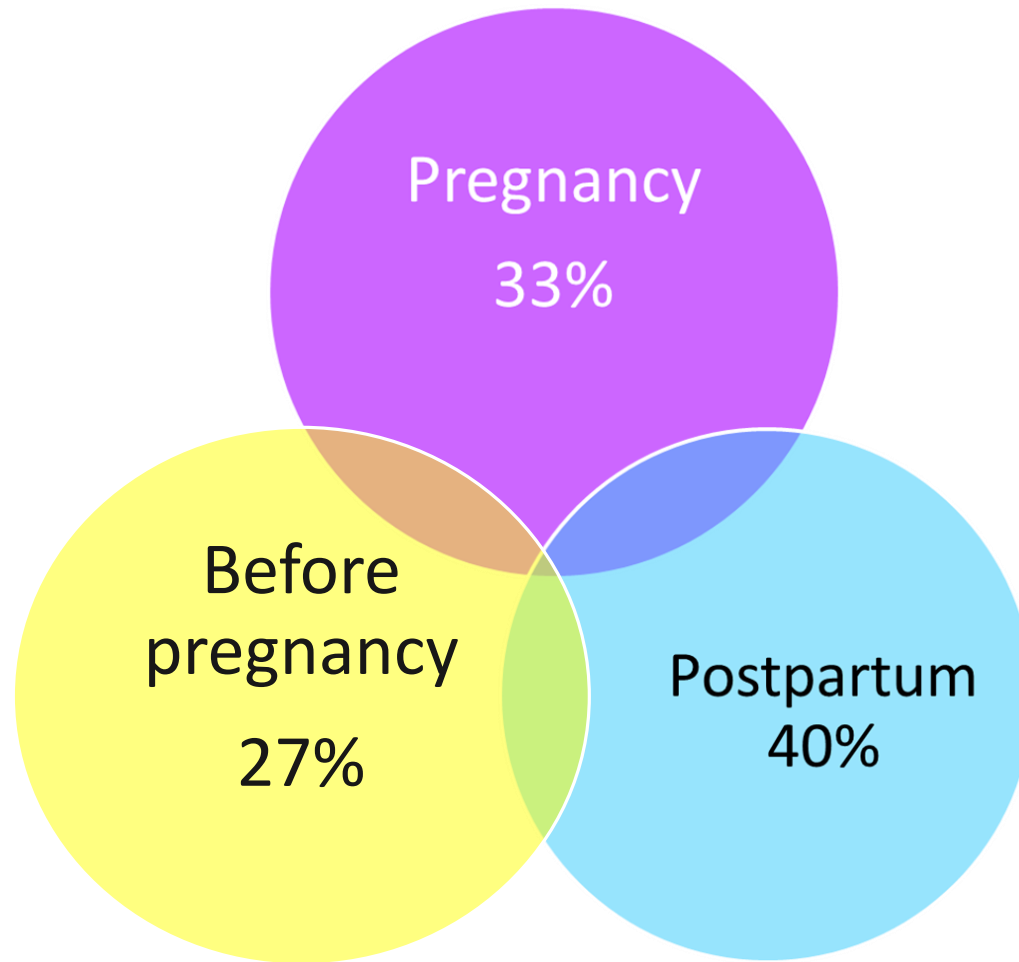


# 1 in 7 women suffer from perinatal depression

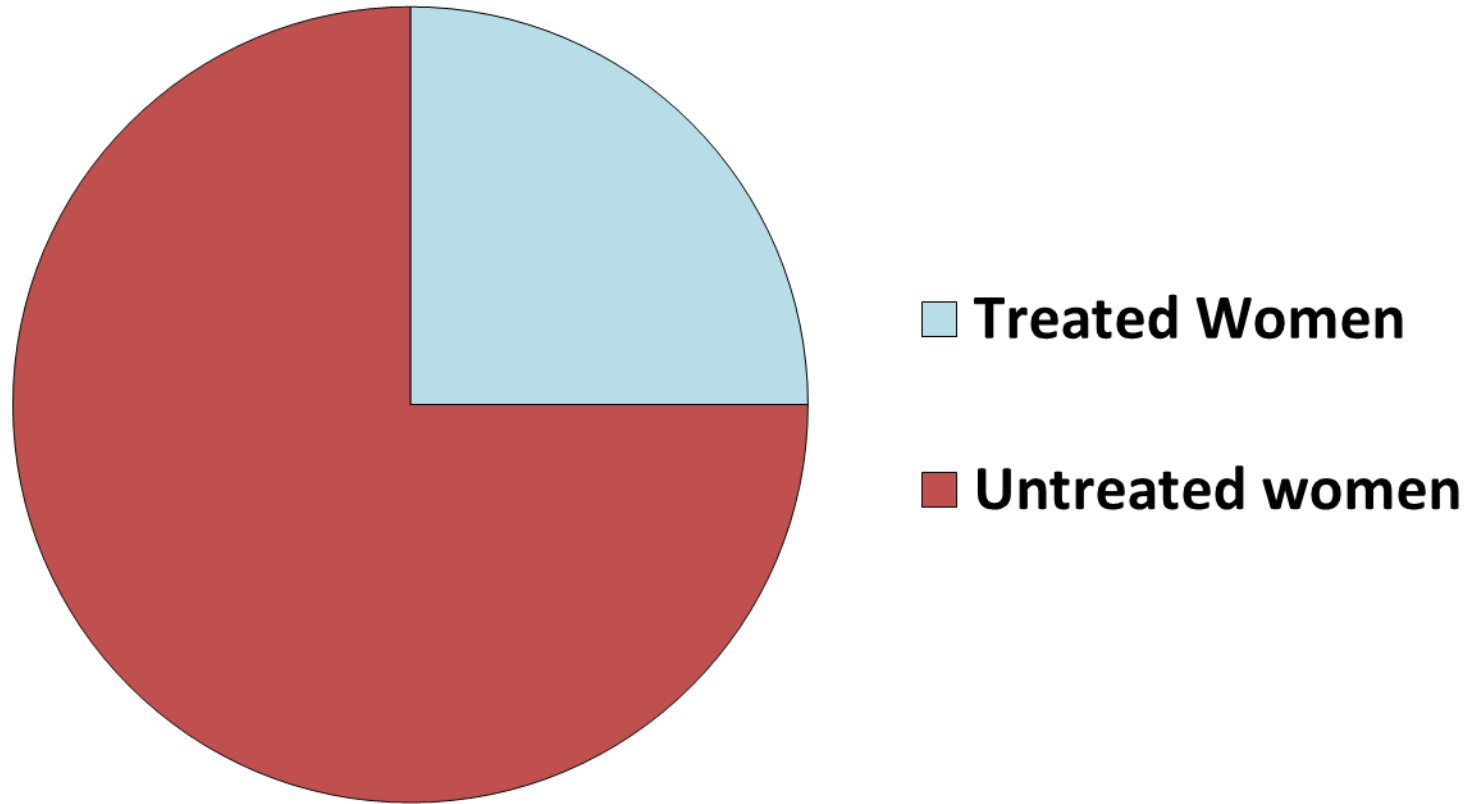




# Two – thirds of perinatal depression begins before birth



# Perinatal depression is under-diagnosed and under-treated





# Barriers to Treatment

## Patient

Lack of detection

Fear/stigma

Limited access

## Provider

Lack of training

Discomfort

Few resources

## Systems

Lack of integrated care

Screening not routine

Isolated providers

Women do not  
disclose symptoms  
or seek care

Underutilization  
of Treatment

Unprepared providers,  
With limited resources

## Poor Outcomes

# Perinatal depression effects mom, child & family

Poor health care  
Substance abuse  
Preeclampsia  
Maternal suicide



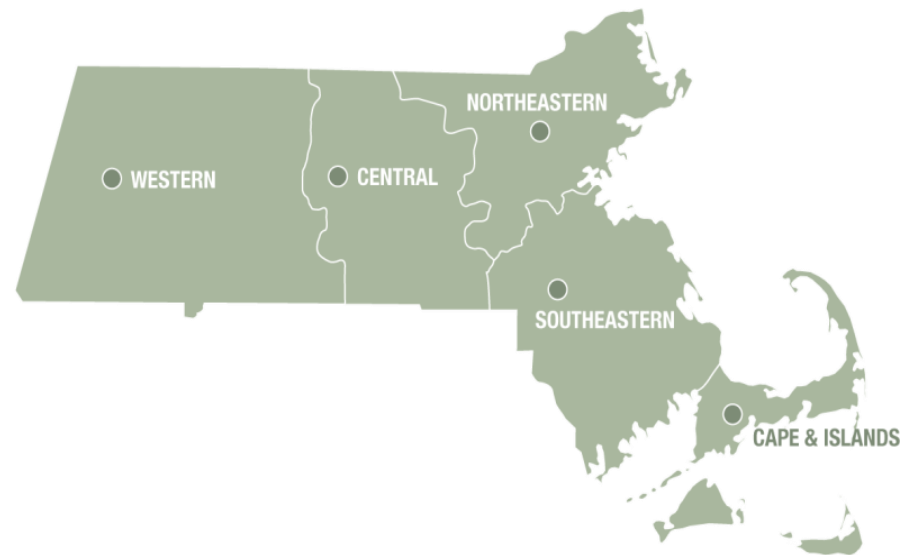
Low birth weight  
Preterm delivery  
Cognitive delays  
Behavioral problems

# In 2010, Massachusetts passed a Postpartum Depression Act

## PPD Commission

PPD Screening Regulation  
(if screen must report CPT  
S3005, 0-6 months)

MCPAP for Moms Funding



Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project

# MCPAP

For Moms



**Education**

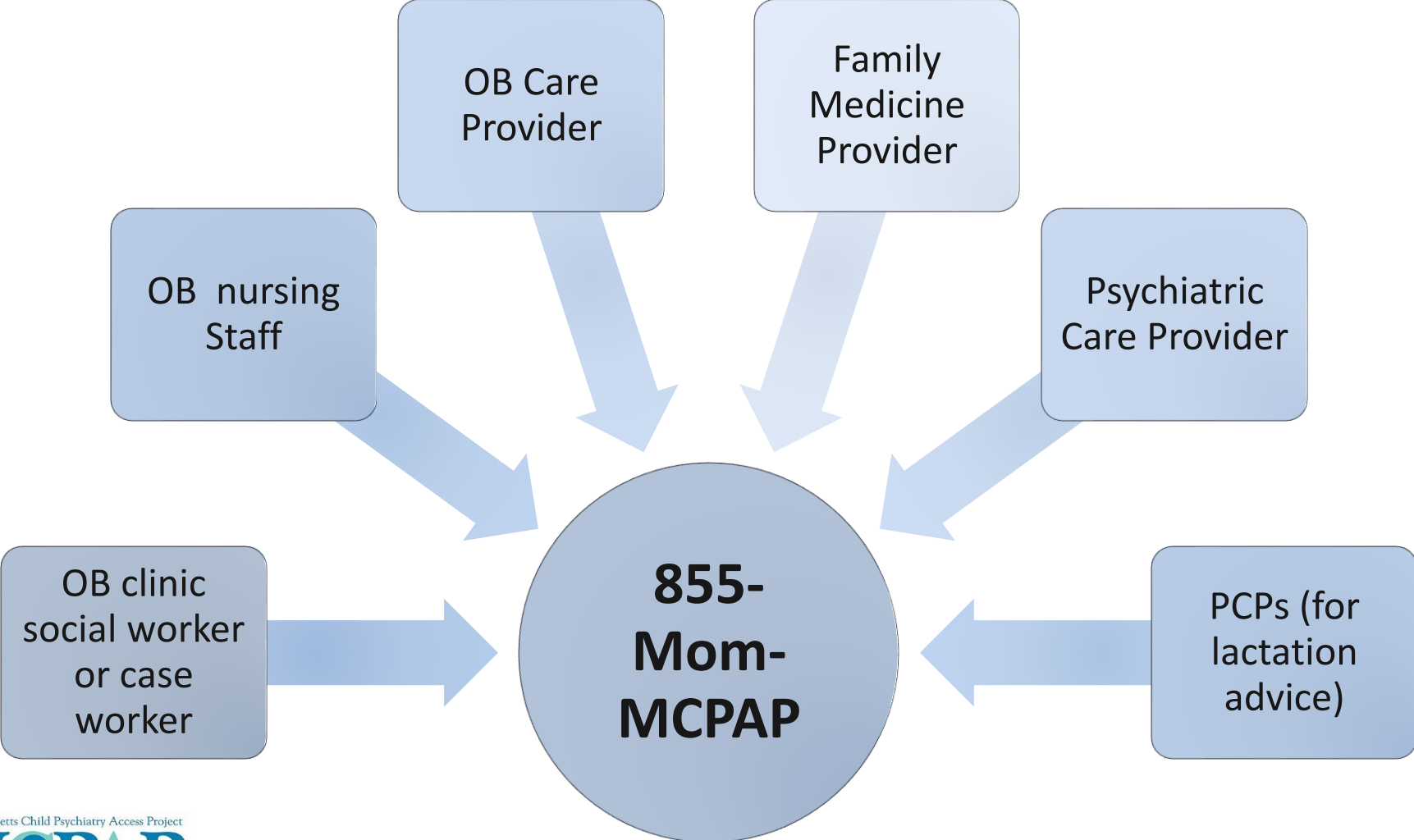


**855-Mom-  
MCPAP**

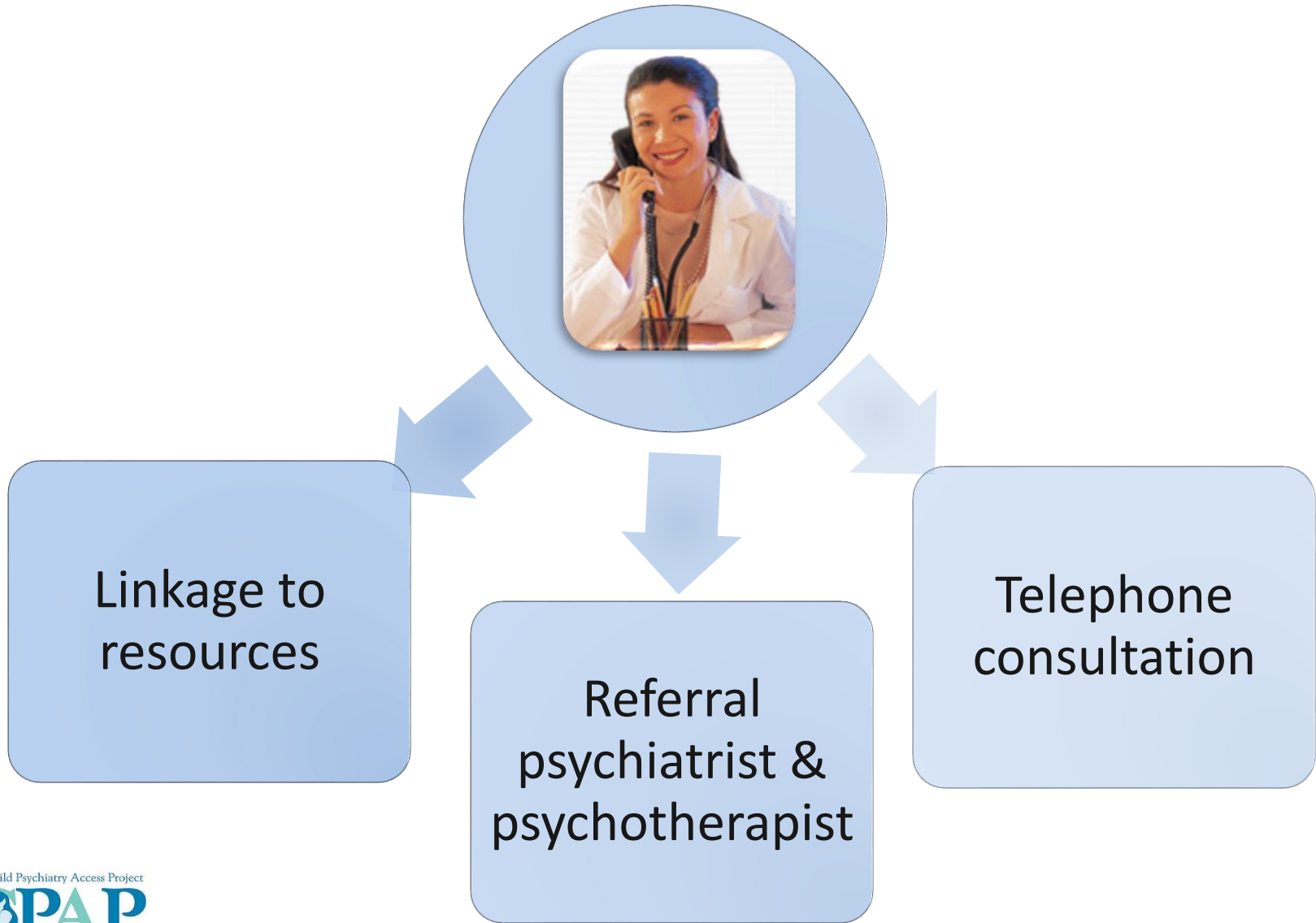


**Care  
Coordination**

# MCPAP for Moms serves providers



# 1-855-Mom-MCPAP



Can refer moms to [www.mcpapformoms.org](http://www.mcpapformoms.org)

Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project

**MCPAP**  
For Moms

Contact number for providers:  
855-Mom-MCPAP (855-666-6272)

Google™ Custom Search

Promoting Maternal Mental Health  
During and After Pregnancy

About MCPAP for Moms | How We Help Providers | Provider Toolkit | Our Team | For Mothers and Families

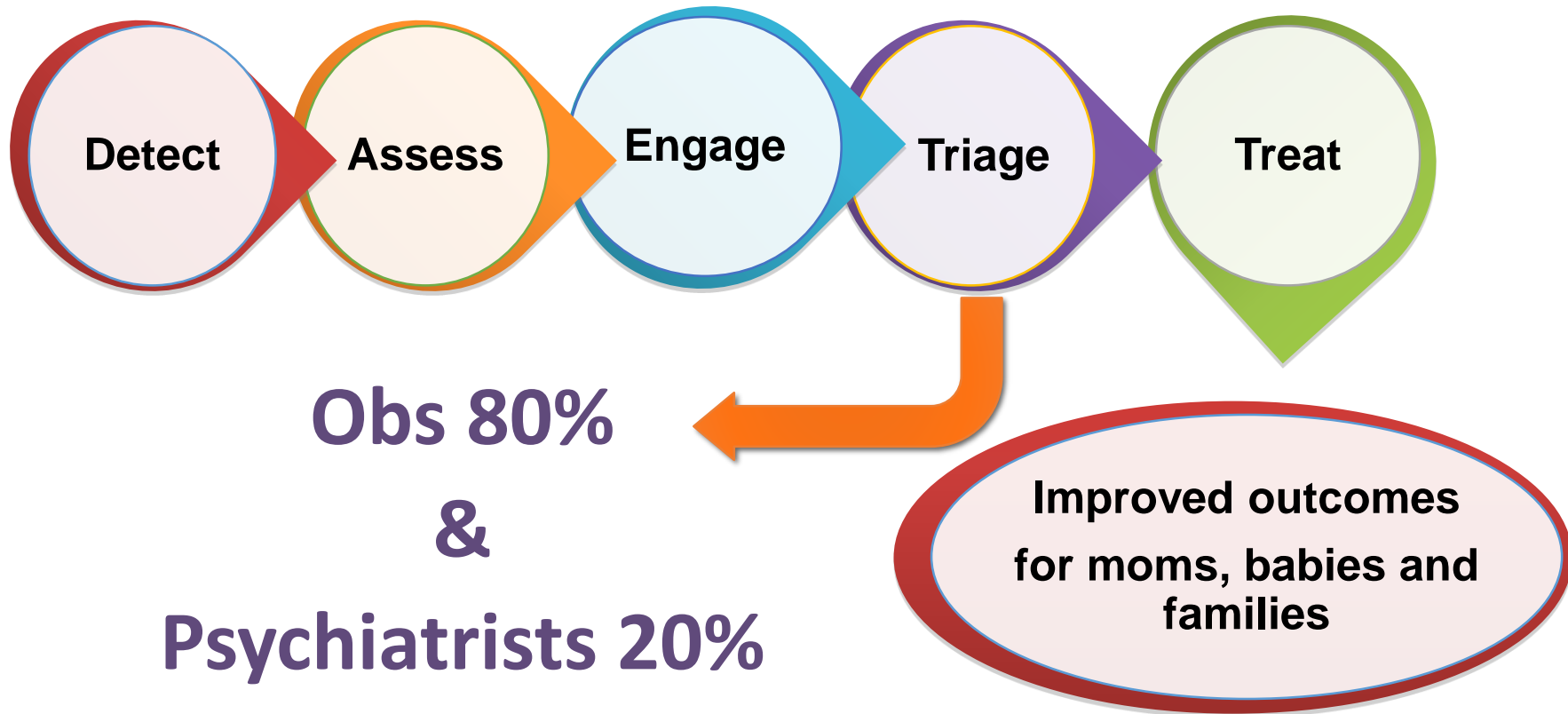


**MCPAP for Moms** promotes maternal and child health by building the capacity of providers serving pregnant and postpartum women and their children up to one year after delivery to effectively prevent, identify, and manage depression.



PLAY VIDEO ▶





# 1-855-Mom-MCPAP



**Patients should provide consent in order for you to share personal information with MCPAP for Moms**

# Management of perinatal psychiatric disorders

Preconception

Pregnancy

Depression & Anxiety

Bipolar & Psychosis

Postpartum



# Think pregnancy for ALL reproductive aged women

**Half of pregnancies are unplanned**

**Discuss and document birth control and risks of teratogenic medication, e.g. valproic acid**

**Be aware of interaction between BCP and mood stabilizers**

- BCP can decrease lamictal levels
- Trileptal and Topomax can decrease BCP efficacy

**Discuss and document preconception planning**

# Preconception planning is imperative

## Prenatal vitamin (ALL women):

folic acid – 1 gm

iodide least 150 micrograms

## Beyond prenatal vitamin (if AED):

folic acid - 4gm daily starting 12wk  
prior to conception



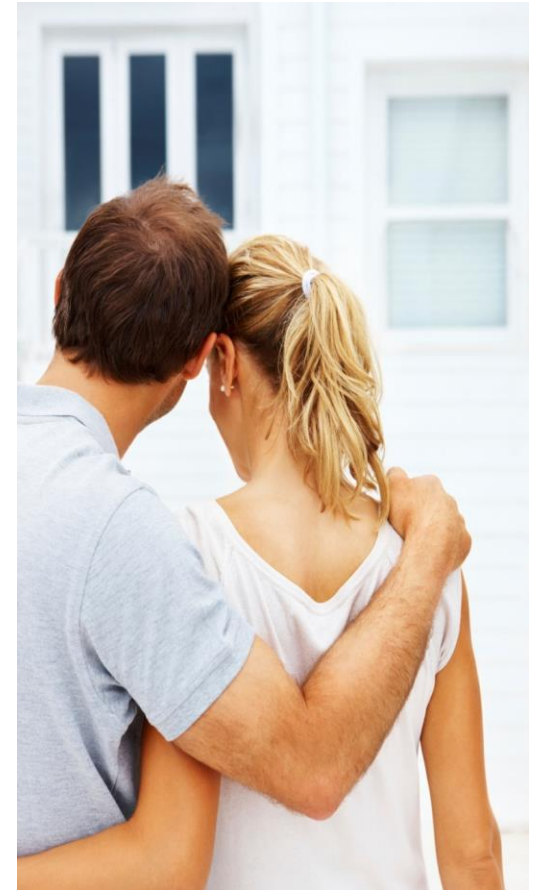
# Preconception planning is critical

Attempting conception and being pregnant can be (often are) stressful

Therapy is evidence based treatment for depression and anxiety

If on psychiatric medication, preconception is an opportunity to plan and streamline treatment

**Call MCPAP for Moms**



# Management of perinatal psychiatric disorders

Preconception

Pregnancy

Depression & Anxiety

Bipolar & Psychosis

Postpartum



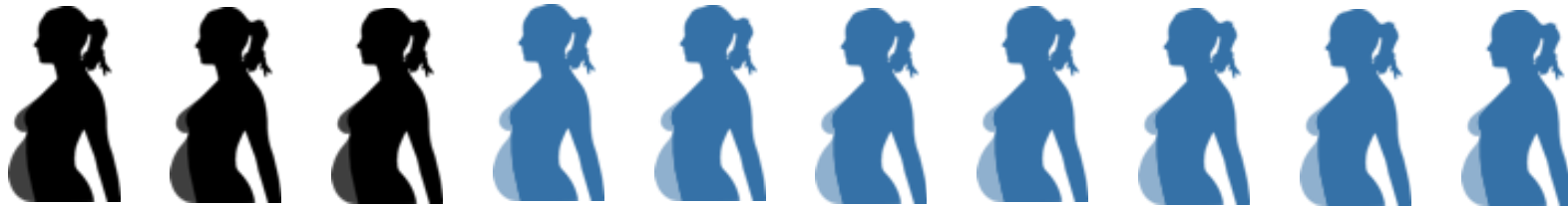


# High risk of relapse during pregnancy in woman discontinuing antidepressants preconception

Continue



Discontinue



**\*If tapering medication prior to conception, continue to follow women during pregnancy.**



**Mild depression**

**No suicidal ideation**

**Able to care for self/baby**

**Engaged in psychotherapy**

**Depression has improved with psychotherapy in the past**

**Strong preference and access to psychotherapy**

**No recent relapse off medication**

**Moderate/severe depression**

**Suicidal ideation**

**Difficulty functioning caring for self/baby**

**Psychotic symptoms**

**History of severe depression**

**Recent relapse off medication**

**Failed trial of psychotherapy**

# Prescribing principles for preconception, pregnancy and breastfeeding

**Use what has worked  
(considering available reproductive safety information)**

**Use lowest EFFECTIVE dose**

**Minimize switching**

**Monotherapy preferable**

**Be aware of need to adjust dose**

**Discourage stopping SSRIs prior to delivery**

# Duration and number of depressive episodes is the # 1 risk factor for relapse during pregnancy

Socioeconomic status

Marital status

Duration of depressive illness and number of previous episodes

Family history of postpartum depression

# Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)

Validated in pregnancy and postpartum

10 items

Asks about self-harm

**Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale<sup>1</sup> (EPDS)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Baby's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

---

As you are pregnant or have recently had a baby, we would like to know how you are feeling. Please check the answer that comes closest to how you have felt **IN THE PAST 7 DAYS**, not just how you feel today.

Here is an example, already completed.

I have felt happy:

- Yes, all the time
- Yes, most of the time This would mean: "I have felt happy most of the time" during the past week.
- No, not very often Please complete the other questions in the same way.
- No, not at all

In the past 7 days:

<p>1. I have been able to laugh and see the funny side of things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="radio"/> As much as I always could</li><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Not quite so much now</li><li><input type="radio"/> Definitely not so much now</li><li><input type="radio"/> Not at all</li></ul> <p>2. I have looked forward with enjoyment to things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> As much as I ever did</li><li><input type="radio"/> Rather less than I used to</li><li><input type="radio"/> Definitely less than I used to</li><li><input type="radio"/> Hardly at all</li></ul> <p>*3. I have blamed myself unnecessarily when things went wrong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, most of the time</li><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes, some of the time</li><li><input type="radio"/> Not very often</li><li><input type="radio"/> No, never</li></ul> <p>4. I have been anxious or worried for no good reason</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="radio"/> No, not at all</li><li><input type="radio"/> Hardly ever</li><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, sometimes</li><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes, very often</li></ul> <p>*5. I have felt scared or panicky for no very good reason</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes, quite a lot</li><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, sometimes</li><li><input type="radio"/> No, not much</li><li><input type="radio"/> No, not at all</li></ul>	<p>*6. Things have been getting on top of me</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, most of the time I haven't been able to cope at all</li><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, sometimes I haven't been coping as well as usual</li><li><input type="radio"/> No, most of the time I have coped quite well</li><li><input type="radio"/> No, I have been coping as well as ever</li></ul> <p>*7. I have been so unhappy that I have had difficulty sleeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, most of the time</li><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes, sometimes</li><li><input type="radio"/> Not very often</li><li><input type="radio"/> No, not at all</li></ul> <p>*8. I have felt sad or miserable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes, most of the time</li><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, quite often</li><li><input type="radio"/> Not very often</li><li><input type="radio"/> No, not at all</li></ul> <p>*9. I have been so unhappy that I have been crying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, most of the time</li><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, quite often</li><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Only occasionally</li><li><input type="radio"/> No, never</li></ul> <p>*10. The thought of harming myself has occurred to me</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="radio"/> Yes, quite often</li><li><input type="radio"/> Sometimes</li><li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Hardly ever</li><li><input type="radio"/> Never</li></ul>
---	--

Administered/Reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

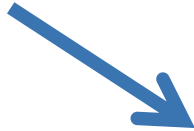
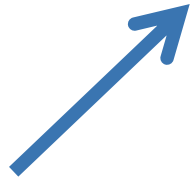
<sup>1</sup>Source: Cox, J.L., Holden, J.M., and Sagovsky, R. 1987. Detection of postnatal depression: Development of the 10-item Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale. *British Journal of Psychiatry* 150:782-786.

<sup>2</sup>Source: K. L. Wisner, B. L. Parry, C. M. Piontek, Postpartum Depression N Engl J Med vol. 347, No 3, July 18, 2002, 194-199

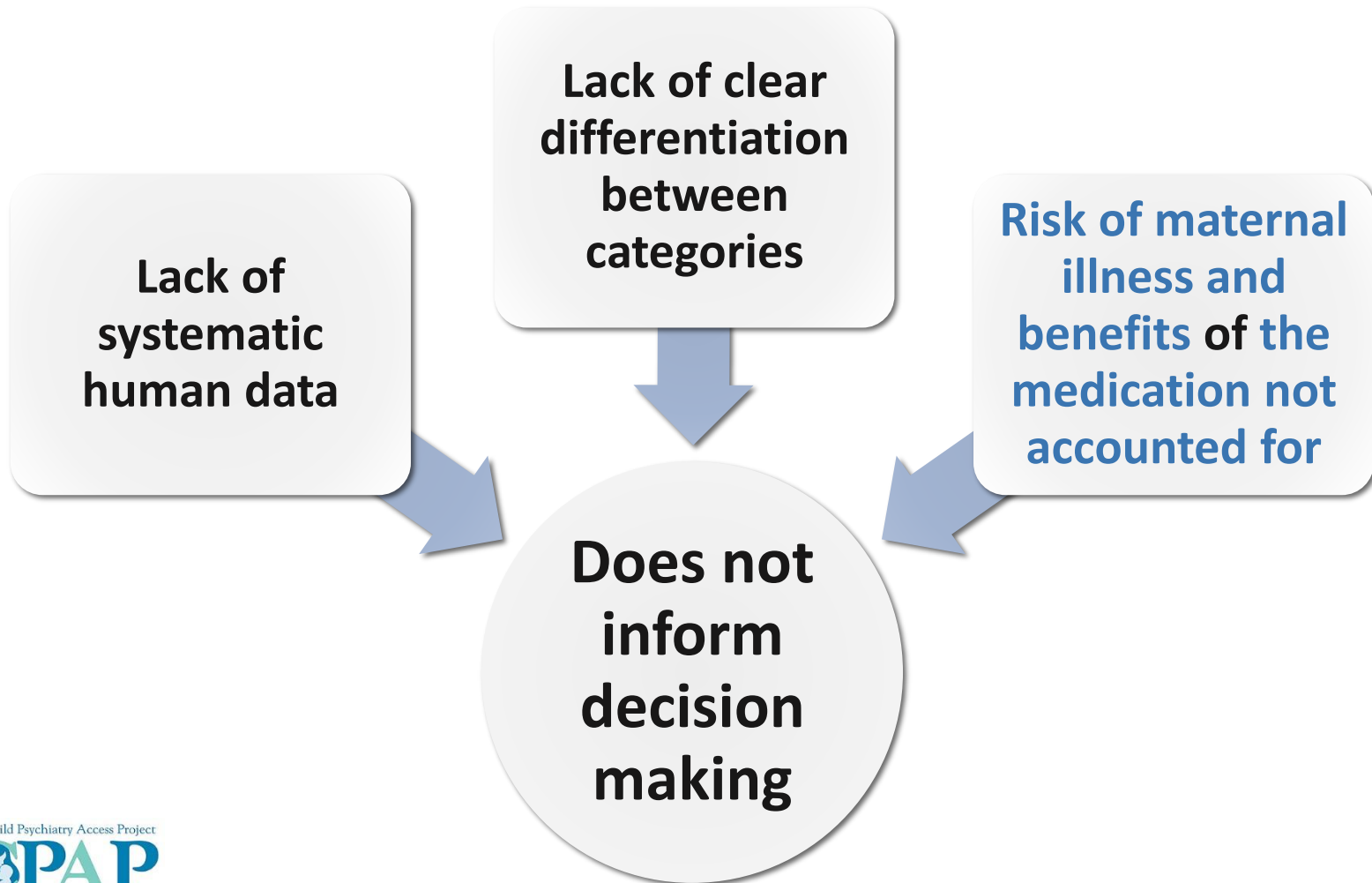
Users may reproduce the scale without further permission providing they respect copyright by quoting the names of the authors, the title and the source of the paper in all reproduced copies.



# Education about various treatment and support options is imperative



# The U.S. FDA antidepressant risk categorization is limited





# No decision is risk free



**Vs.**



**SSRIs are among the best studied classes of medications used in pregnancy**

# Case of Ms. Y

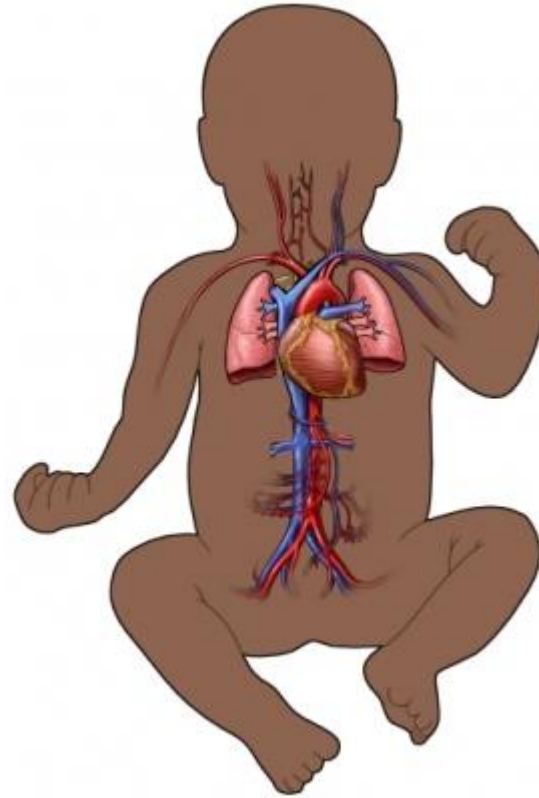


# Absolute risk of birth defects when antidepressants taken in first trimester is small



**Data is inconsistent, paxil has most been controversial**

# Absolute risk of persistent pulmonary hypertension (PPHN) appears small



**Baseline rate of 1-2 per 1000 births, may increase to 3-4 in 1000 births**

# Small increase risk of preterm labor & low birth weight



**Depression can also increase risk of preterm labor  
and low birth weight**

# Possible transient neonatal symptoms with exposure to antidepressants



**Transient and self-limited syndrome that may occur in up to 30% of neonates**

**No data to support taper in third trimester**



# Studies do not suggest long-term neurobehavioral effects on children





# Case of Ms. X



# When possible, slowly taper benzodiazepines, with goal to be on lowest possible dose

## Possible risks

Cleft lip/palate

Preterm birth

Low birth weight

Neonatal withdrawal syndrome/possible small risk of floppy  
infant

## Guidelines

Monotherapy preferable to polypharmacy, so optimize SSRI first

Fewer/no active metabolites (lorazepam) may be safer

# Management of perinatal psychiatric disorders

Preconception

**Pregnancy**

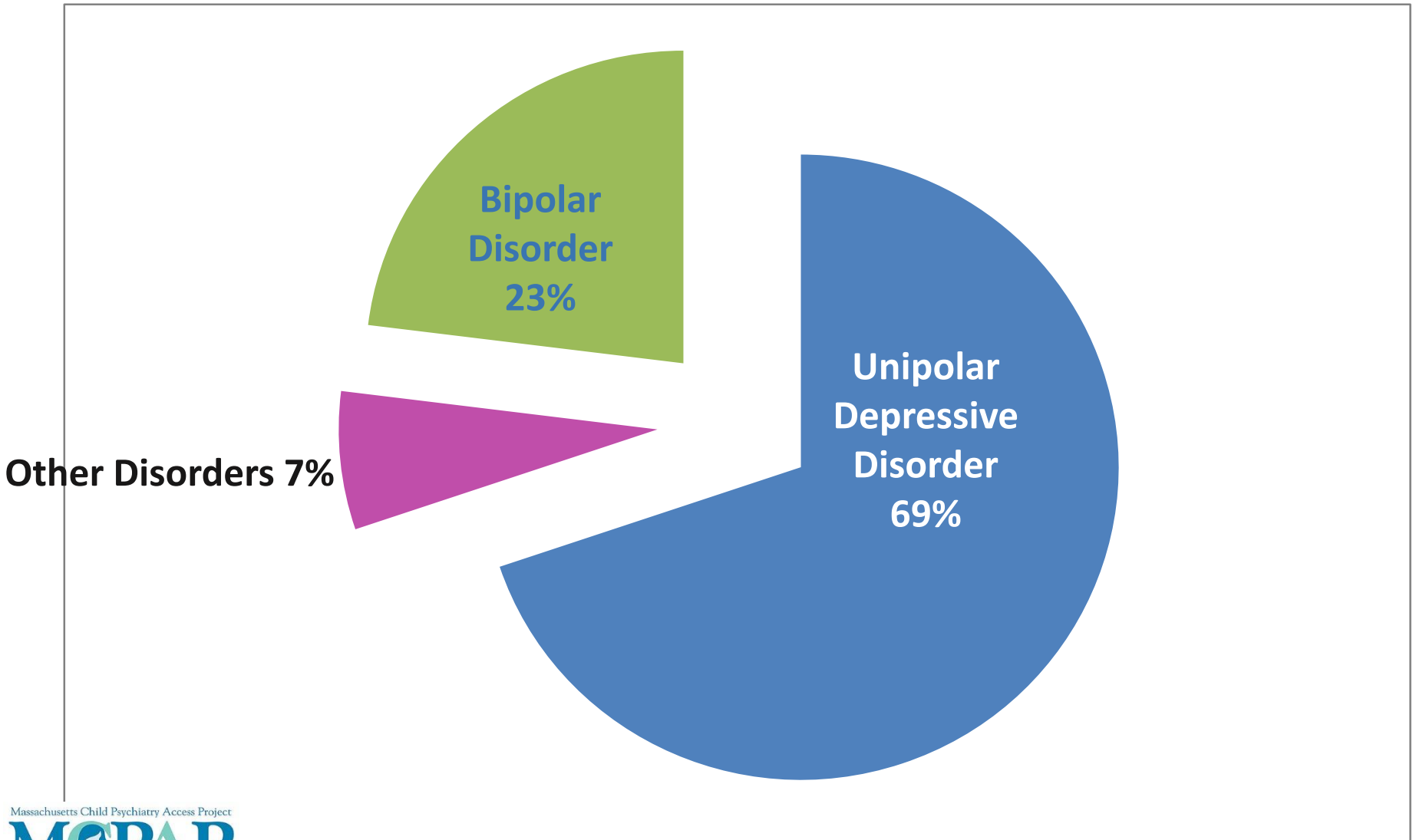
Depression & Anxiety

**Bipolar & Psychosis**

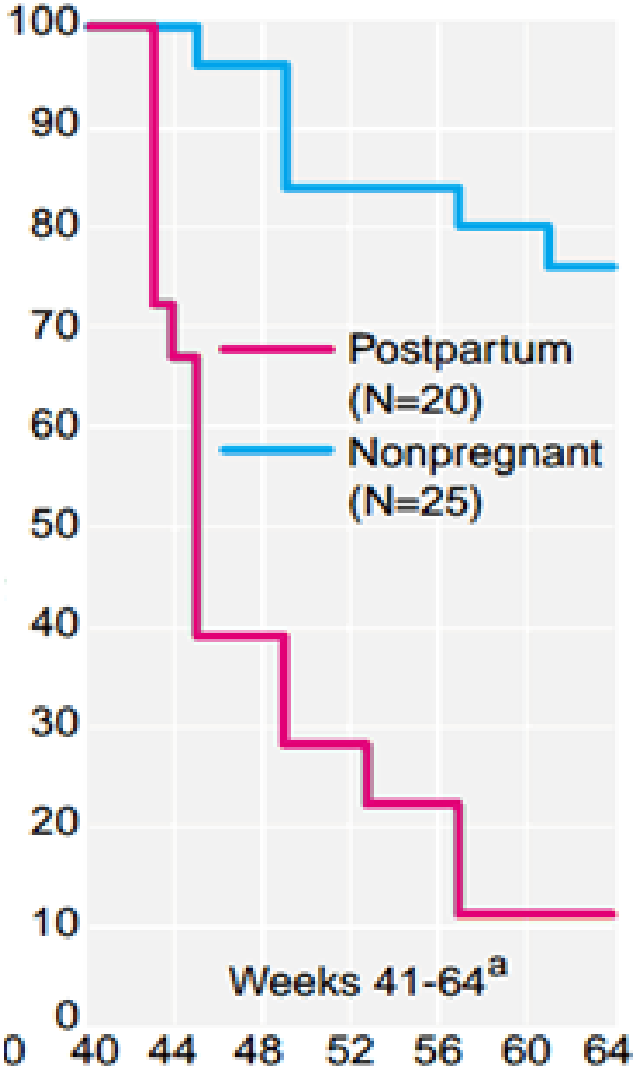
Postpartum



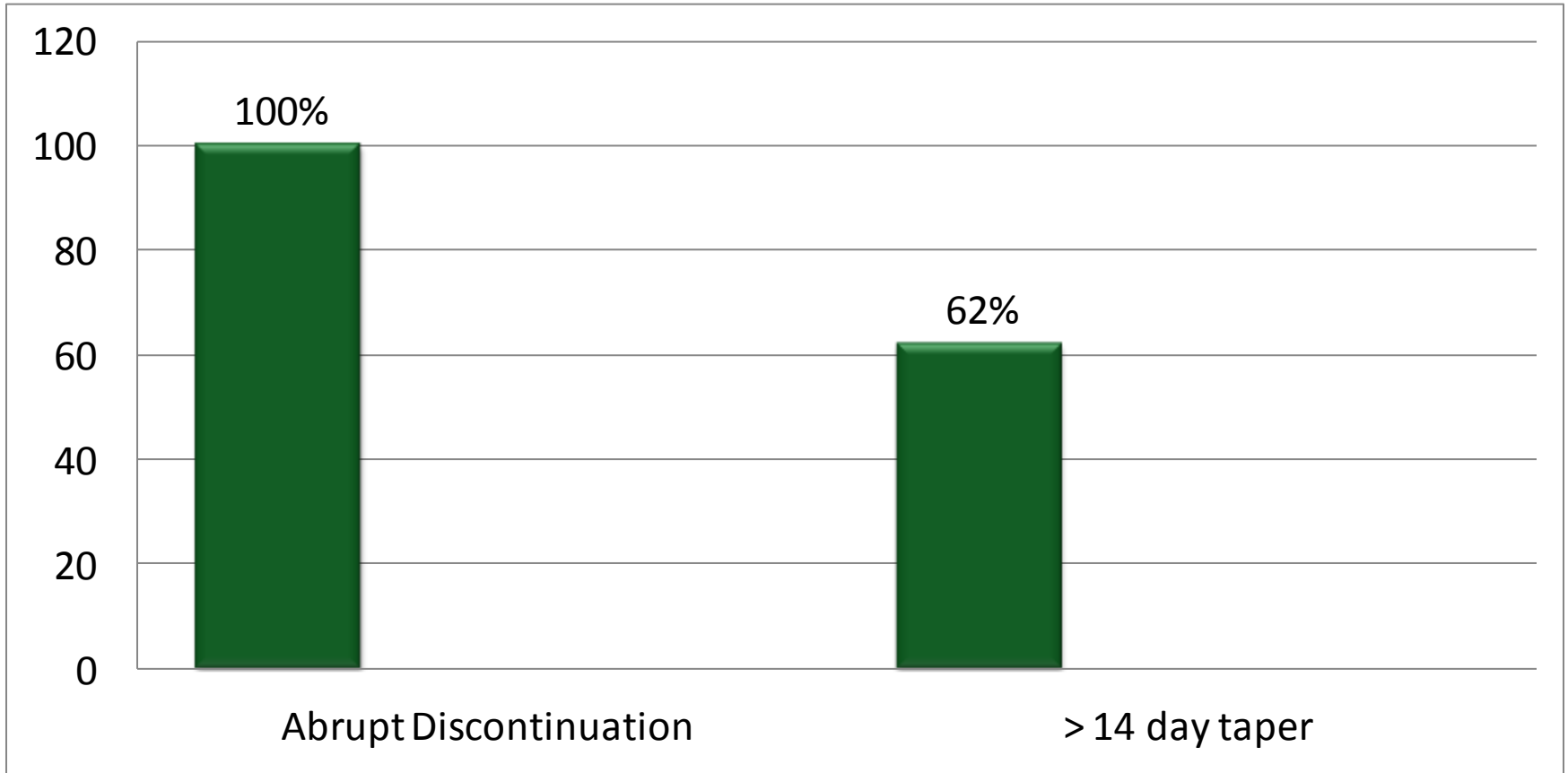
# Imperative to address bipolar disorder



# High risk of relapse for bipolar disorder after medication discontinuation postpartum



# Risk for recurrence of bipolar disorder increases after medication discontinuation in pregnancy



# Bipolar disorder increases risk of postpartum psychosis

**1-2/1000 women**

**>70% bipolar disorder**

**24 hrs – 3 weeks postpartum**

**Mood symptoms, psychotic symptoms & disorientation**

**R/o medical causes of delirium**

**Psychiatric emergency**

**4% risk of infanticide with postpartum psychosis**



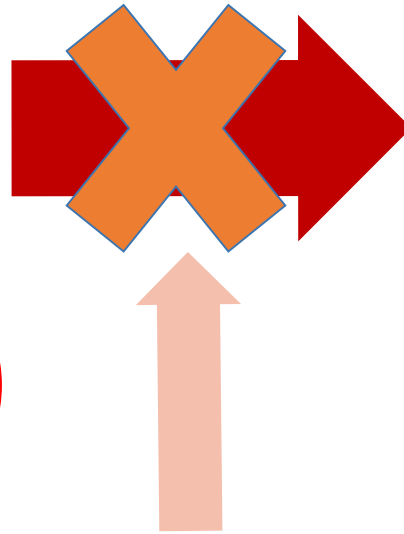
Relative Safety In Pregnancy	Mood Stabilizer	Key Clinical Evidence
Safer	Typical antipsychotics (haloperidol, perphenazine)	Used clinically in pregnancy for over 50 years.
	Lamotrigine	Not show increase in teratogenicity. Not show delay in neurodevelopment.
Caution	Atypical antipsychotics	While no major findings, data is limited.
	Lithium	Absolute risk of cardiac malformation rare. (Epstein's anomaly 0.01-0.05%) Watch for 'floppy baby' syndrome.
Avoid if possible	Carbamazepine	Increased risk of cleft lip/palate. Risk of reduced head circumference, lower birth weight and shorter length.
	Valproic acid	Increase risk of multiple malformations. (~8-9%) Lower IQ.



# Folic acid supplementation with AED in Pregnancy

Carbamezapine

Valproic Acid



Folic acid

(4mg x 12 weeks preconception)

# Lithium use in pregnancy as been associated with risks to mother and baby

## Maternal risks

Preterm labor

Polyhydramnios & polyuria/polydipsia

## Neonatal risks:

Prematurity

Large for gestational age

Cardiac defects: Epstein's anomaly

Neural tube defects: possible small

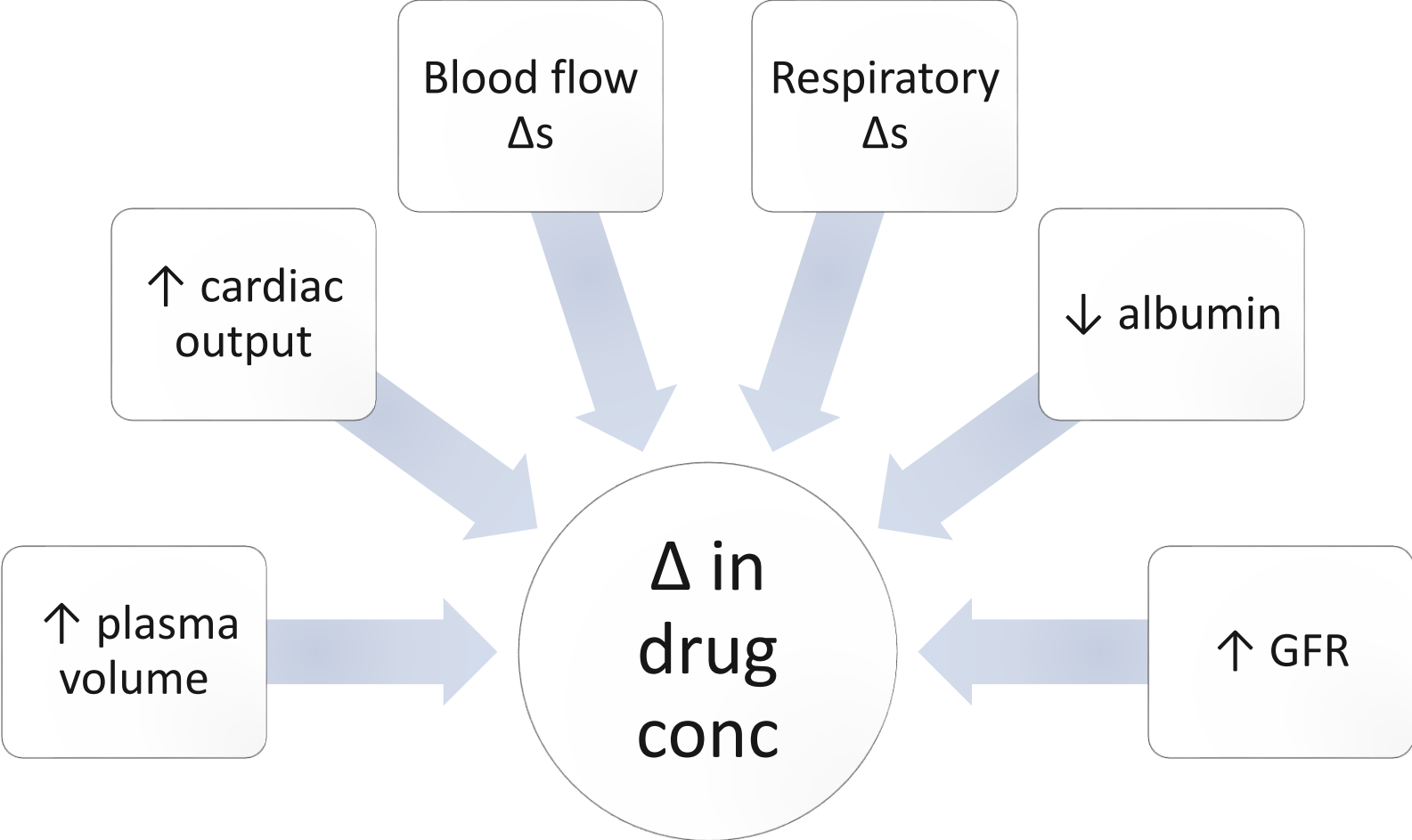
Neonatal adaption/floppy baby

Long-term developmental issues?

'Floppy Baby'



# Pharmacokinetics change during pregnancy

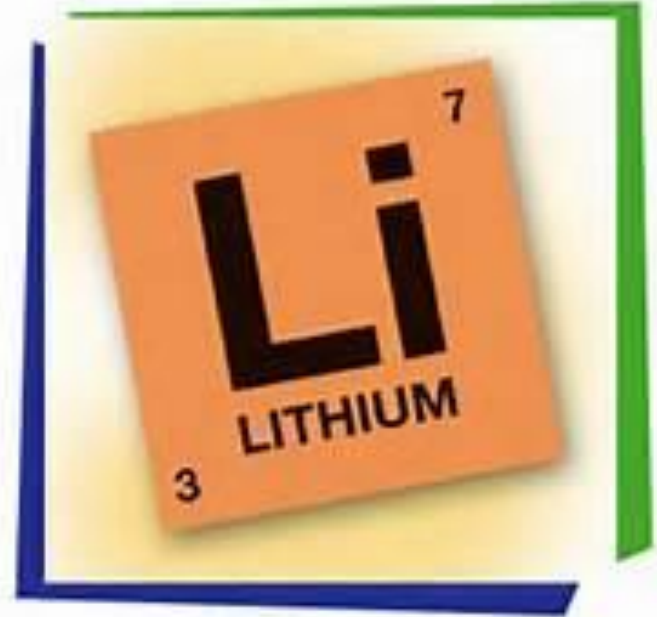


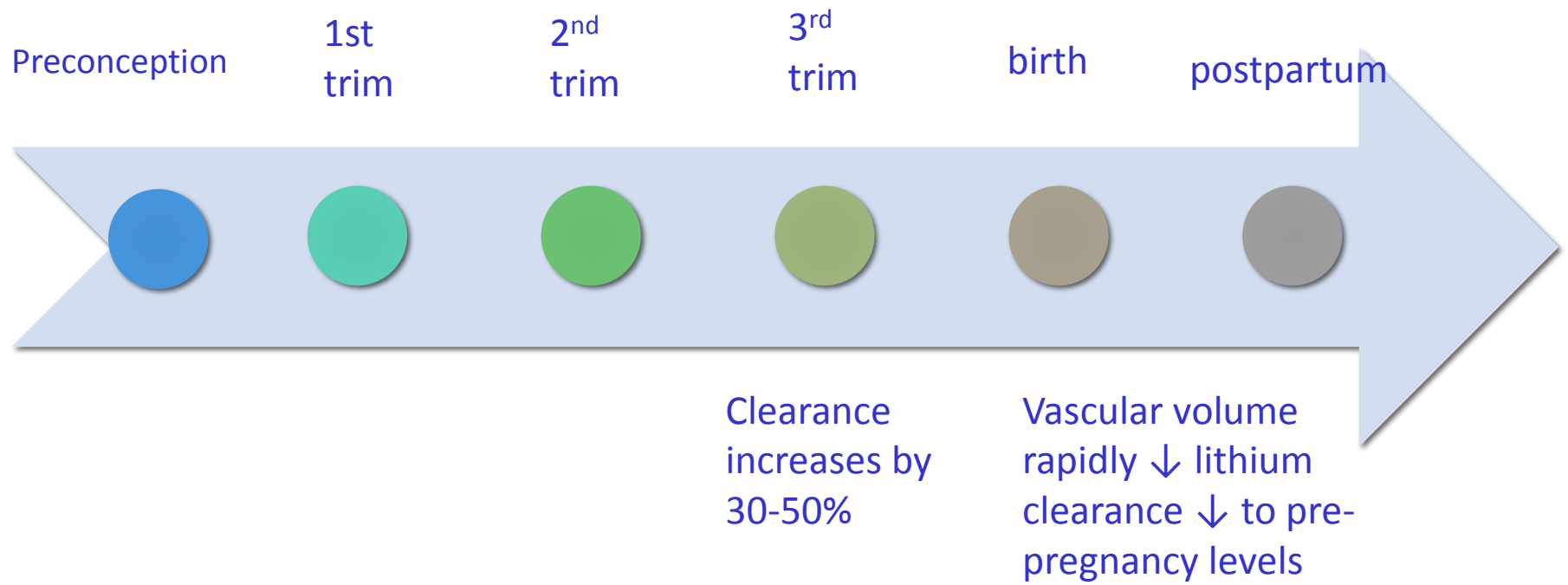
# Lithium serum concentration decreases in pregnancy

Therapeutic index of 0.6-1.2  
mEq/L

Li clearance is 20-30% of GFR

Varies with GFR

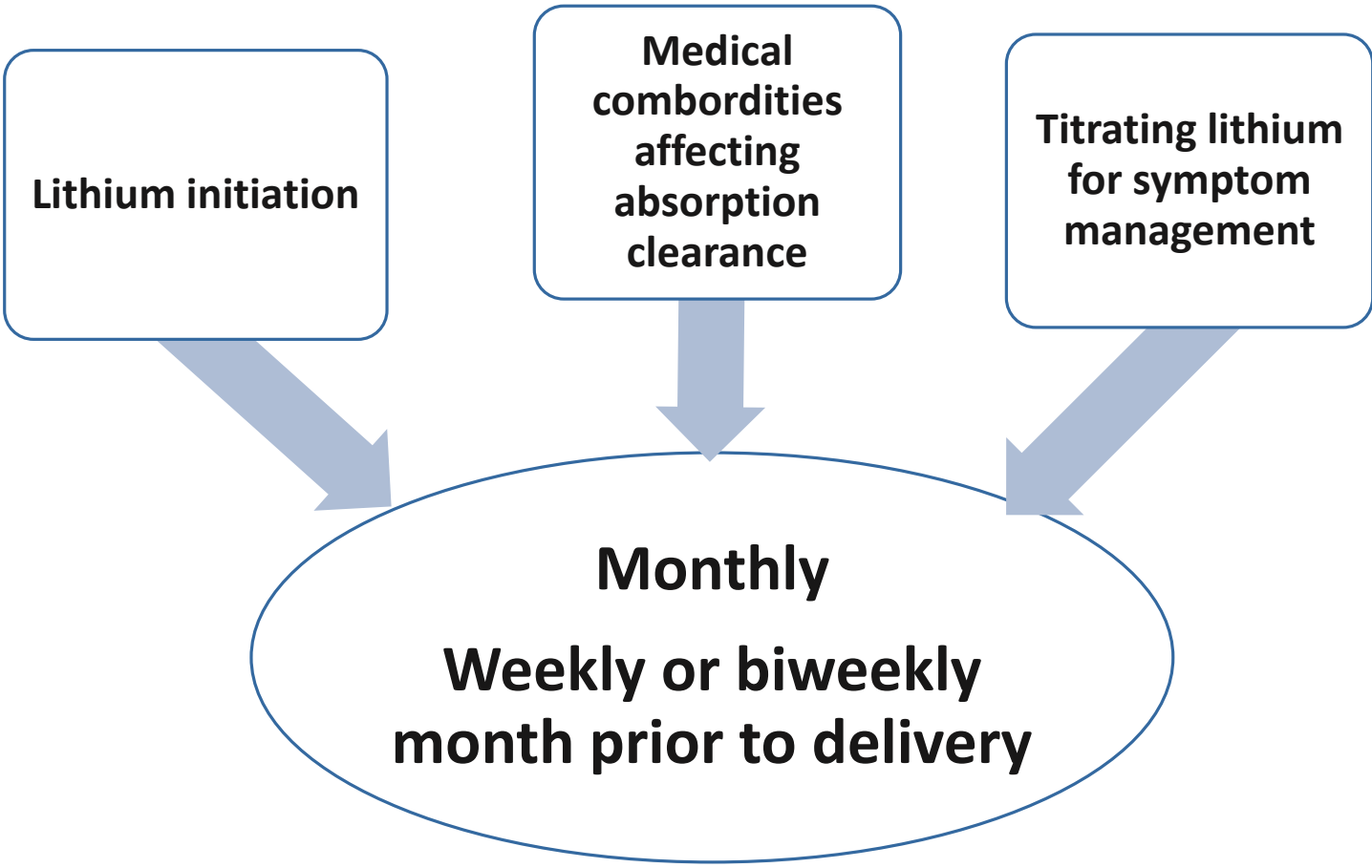




**\*Established therapeutic drug level and narrow therapeutic index of 0.6-1.2mEq/L**

**\*\*Lithium clearance increases by 30-50% due to ↑ renal blood flow**

# Frequent TDM may be required in some cases



# Monitor closely around delivery

Check maternal lithium level when women present for delivery

Adequate hydration

Avoid nephrotoxins and NSAIDs



# Other monitoring for Lithium during pregnancy is also needed

**Followed by a high risk Ob**

**Ultrasound and fetal echocardiogram at 16 to 18 weeks**

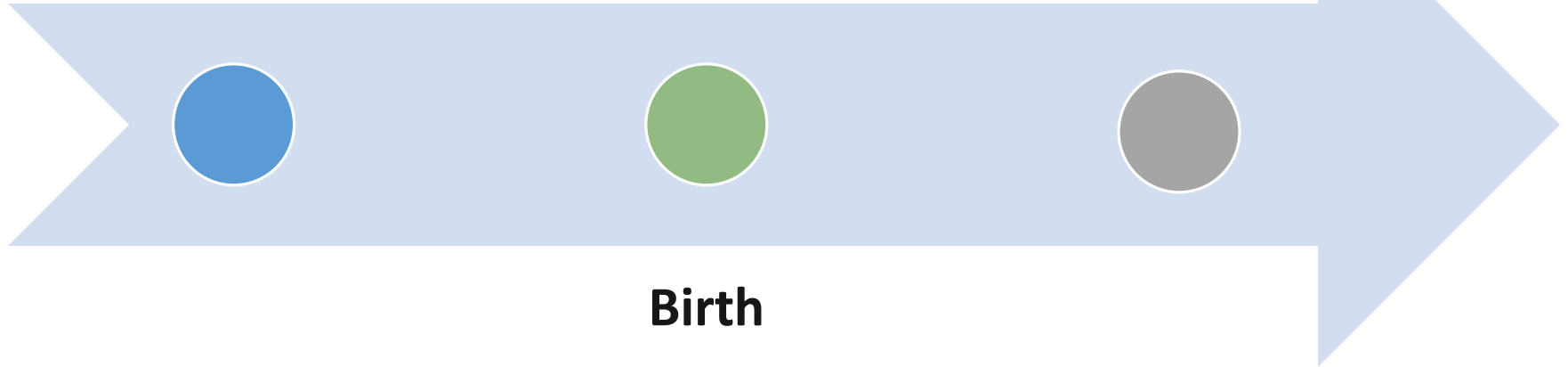
**May consider twice daily dosing, to avoid higher lithium peak levels**

**Consider monitoring infants' lithium serum levels, TSH and renal function**



**Unclear evidence  
for holding Li 24-48  
hrs before delivery**

**Check level 24 hrs  
after birth & after  
each dose  
adjustment**



# Management of perinatal psychiatric disorders

Preconception

**Pregnancy**

Depression & Anxiety

Bipolar & **Psychosis**

Postpartum



# Psychosis and schizophrenia in pregnancy pose substantial risks to mother and baby

**Less prenatal care**

**Smoking**

**Prematurity**

**Poor maternal-fetal attachment**

**Postpartum psychosis**



# Risk of harm to baby

## OCD/anxiety

- Good insight
- Thoughts are intrusive and scary
- No psychotic symptoms
- Thoughts cause anxiety



**Low risk**

## Postpartum Psychosis

- Poor insight
- Psychotic symptoms
- Delusional beliefs or distorted reality present



**High risk**

# Use antipsychotics that work, while taking into account relative risks of medications

Preterm delivery

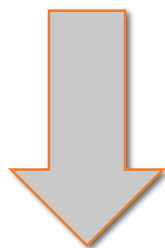
Low birth weight

No single malformation consistently reported

Increased risk of postnatal adaptation symptoms

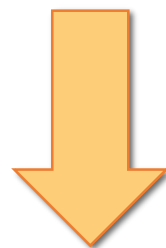
Infant hospitalization NICU stay

Typicals  
(lower risk)



Small risk of transient abnormal muscle movement

Evidence suggests **NO** long-term developmental effects



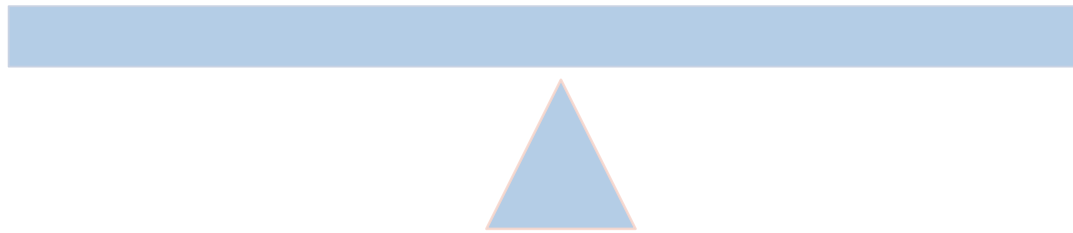
Atypicals  
(higher risk)

Metabolic complications

Possible large for gestational age

**NO** data on long-term effects

# There is no such thing as no exposure



**Need to balance and discuss the risks and benefits of medication treatment and risks of untreated depression**

# Management of perinatal psychiatric disorders

Preconception

Pregnancy

Depression & Anxiety

Bipolar & Psychosis

Postpartum



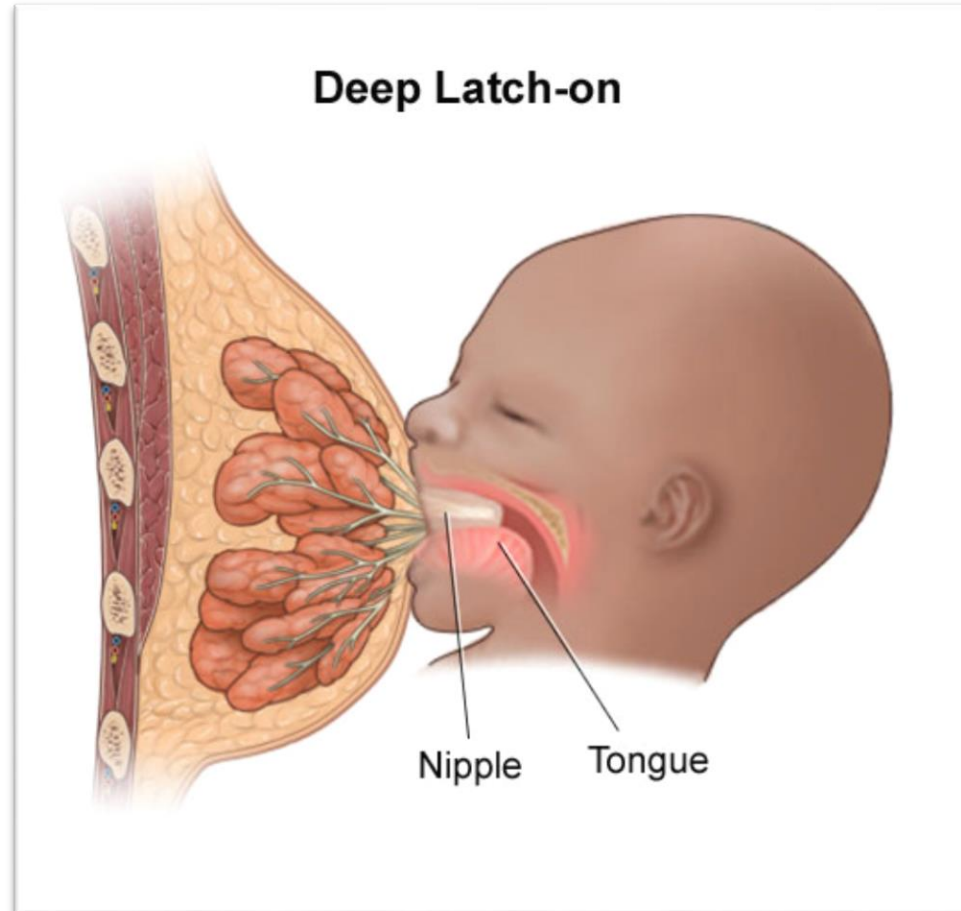


# Breastfeeding generally should not preclude treatment with antidepressants



**SSRIs and some other antidepressants are considered a reasonable option during breastfeeding**

# Sertraline, paroxetine, & fluvoxamine have lowest passage into milk



# All psychotropic meds are excreted through breastmilk

<b>Medication</b>	<b>AAP</b>
<b>Bupropion</b>	<b>Unknown, but may be of concern</b>
<b>Carbamazepine</b>	<b>Usually compatible with breastfeeding</b>
<b>Valproic acid</b>	<b>Usually compatible with breastfeeding</b>
<b>Lamotrigine</b>	<b>Unknown, but may be of concern</b>
<b>Lithium</b>	<b>Significant side effects, should be used with caution</b>
<b>Olanzapine</b>	<b>Not rated</b>
<b>Risperidone</b>	<b>Not rated</b>
<b>Quetiapine</b>	<b>Not rated</b>

# Infant monitoring is needed during lactation for certain medications

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Infant Monitoring</b>
<b>Carbamazepine</b>	<b>CBZ level, CBC, liver enzymes</b>
<b>Valproic acid</b>	<b>VPA level (free and total), liver enzymes, platelets</b>
<b>Lamotrigine</b>	<b>Rash, liver enzymes, lamictal level</b>
<b>Lithium</b>	<b>BUN, CRE, TSH, CBC</b>
<b>Typical antipsychotics</b>	<b>Stiffness, CPK</b>
<b>Atypical antipsychotics</b>	<b>Weight, blood sugar</b>

LactMed website: <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/newtoxnet/lactmed.htm>

# In summary, psychiatric disorders affect mom, baby and family

## Mom

- Suffering
- Poor self-care
- Suicide

## Fetus/Pregnancy

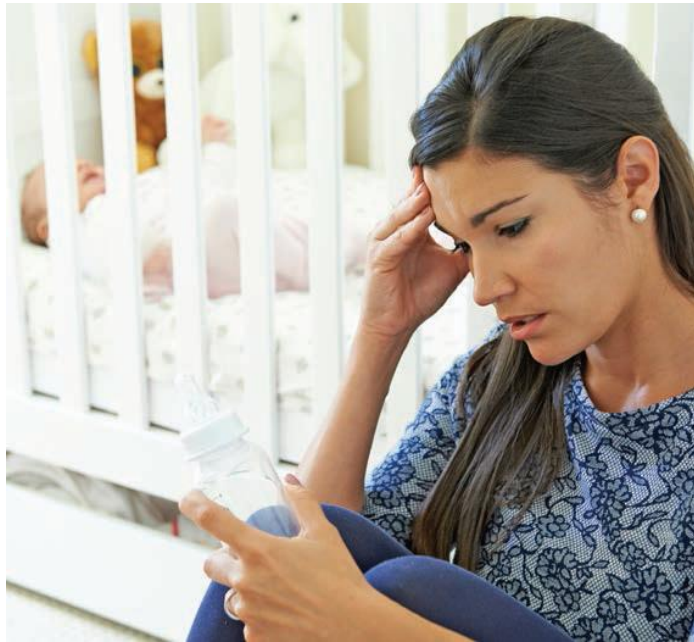
- Preterm birth
- LBW
- HTN & Preeclampsia

## Child/Family

- ↑ risk of depression
- Child development
- Marriage
- Siblings

**No decision is risk-free**

# In summary, our aim is to promote maternal and child health by building the capacity of front line providers to address perinatal depression



**Please call us with any questions as we are to here  
to help you**

**1-855-Mom-MCPAP**

**[www.mcpapformoms.org](http://www.mcpapformoms.org)**

Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project  
**MCPAP**  
For Moms

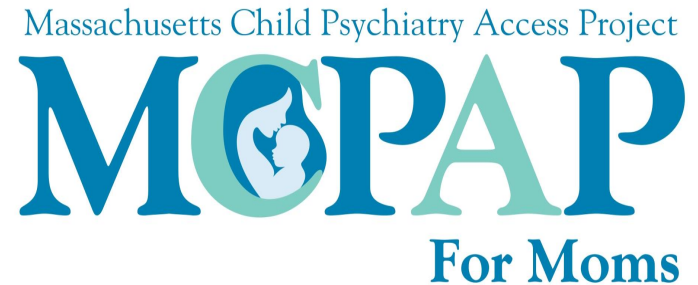
Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project  
**MCPAP**  
For Moms

**Call 1-855-Mom-MCPAP**  
**[www.mcpapformoms.org](http://www.mcpapformoms.org)**

**Nancy Byatt, DO, MS, MBA, Medical Director**  
**[Nancy.Byatt@umassmemorial.org](mailto:Nancy.Byatt@umassmemorial.org)**

**Marcy Ravech, MSW, Director**  
**[Marcy.Ravech@beaconhealthoptions.com](mailto:Marcy.Ravech@beaconhealthoptions.com)**

**Mary Houghton, BS, Program Management Specialist**  
**[Mary.Houghton@beaconhealthoptions.com](mailto:Mary.Houghton@beaconhealthoptions.com)**



**Copyright © MCPAP for Moms 2016 all rights reserved. Authors: Byatt N, Ravech M, Straus J. Funding provided by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and Commercial Insurers.**

**Thank you!**

