

Psychiatry Grand Rounds

WCM Department of Psychiatry

Psychology CE Announcement



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Psychiatry

ANTIDEPRESSANT TREATMENT IN PREGNANCY: ARE WE ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS?

KATHERINE L. WISNER, MD MS

PROFESSOR OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES AND PEDIATRICS PRENATAL MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPING BRAIN INSTITUTE CHILDREN'S NATIONAL HOSPITAL, WASHINGTON DC
PROFESSOR OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES

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February 18, 2026



11 AM - 12 PM



Live Online

ABSTRACT

More than 5% of pregnant individuals are prescribed a serotonin selective or serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor (collectively, SRI). A major challenge in the field is benefit-harm decision making for drug treatment. In the observational studies typical of this field, disambiguating the reproductive effects of drug exposure from the sequelae of the underlying psychiatric disease, both physiological and psychosocial, is challenging. Substantial progress has been made using sophisticated study designs and analytic approaches with large pregnancy cohorts that reduce the risk of spurious associations. Increased rates of overall and cardiac defects, stillbirth, preterm birth, fetal growth, and persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn have been largely explained by confounding by indication (factors associated with both MDD and these outcomes), rather than SRI exposure.

SPEAKER

Dr. Katherine Wisner is Professor of Psychiatry, and Pediatrics in the Developing Brain Institute at Children's National Hospital, and Obstetrics and Gynecology at George Washington University School of Medicine, in Washington DC. She received her Masters degree in Nutrition and an M.D. from Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, Ohio), followed by a pediatric internship and general and child psychiatry residency at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She completed a post-doctoral research fellowship in Epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Wisner is a pioneer in the field of perinatal psychiatry. She is internationally recognized as an expert in the treatment of mood disorders during pregnancy and the postpartum period. Her research has advanced our understanding of the natural history of mood disorders across childbearing, benefit-harm decision-making for pharmacotherapy during pregnancy and lactation, and the pharmacokinetics of medications across pregnancy and lactation. Dr. Wisner received over \$22 million in funding from NIH, published 280 peer-reviewed articles, and 23 book chapters. She received Mentorship Awards from both the University of Pittsburgh and Northwestern Schools of Medicine. Dr. Wisner was awarded the Marcè International Society for Perinatal Mental Health Medal for lifetime contributions, and she founded the North American regional group of the Society. She is a Fellow of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, and a member of the Standing Committee on Reproductive Health, Equity, and Society of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. She serves on the Editorial Board of JAMA Psychiatry.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the key components involved in clinical decision-making for the use of antidepressants during pregnancy.
2. Evaluate the evidence regarding the risks associated with antidepressant use during pregnancy compared to the risks of untreated maternal depression.
3. Discuss the importance of research that examines both the benefits and risks of antidepressant treatment on maternal and fetal outcomes.

REFERENCES

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