



Pregnancy Intention in Women with Disability vs. Women Without Disability

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Summary

- ❖ Compared to their counterparts, women with sensory disabilities are more likely to be non-citizen, have less education, not married, have worse health status, and smoke
- ❖ Women with sensory disability had 85% higher pregnancy intention than women without sensory disability but this relationship is not significant
 - ❖ Adjusted OR: 1.85, 95% CI: 0.90, 3.81

Introduction

- ❖ 12 in 100 reproductive age women lives with a disability, and this proportion is expected to increase
- ❖ Women with disabilities (WWD) face many reproductive health barriers

Lack of access to care

- Misconceptions about their sexuality
- Stigma around them desiring to have children
- Personal feelings of burden

- ❖ Data on their desire to become pregnant is sparse, contributing to the misconception that WWD do not want a family

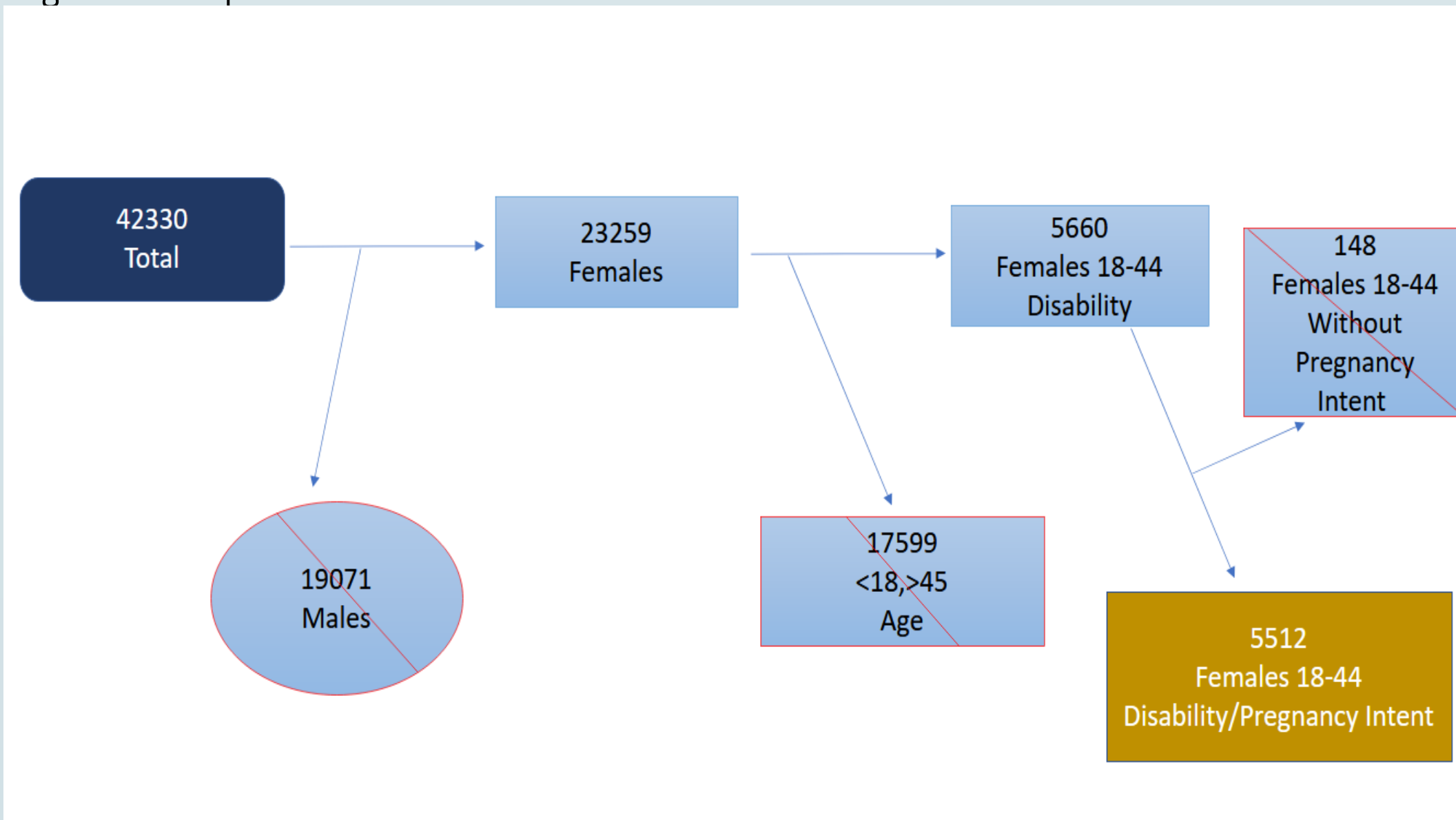
Objectives

- ❖ Describe characteristics of women with/without sensory disabilities in California.
- ❖ Determine the association between sensory disabilities and pregnancy intention in women of reproductive age

Methods

- ❖ Data and participants:
 - California Health Interview Survey (2017-2018)

Figure 1. Sample Size Selection CHIS 2017-2018



- ❖ Exposure: self-reported sensory disability, defined as having severe vision or hearing problem/deaf or blind/legally blind
- ❖ Outcome: self-reported pregnancy intention. Defined as planning to be pregnant in the next 12 months
- ❖ Statistical Analysis
 - Objective 1: Chi-square and t-test compared characteristics of women with disability vs. women without sensory disability.
 - Objective 2: Logistic regression and calculate odds ratio and 95% CI.
 - Covariates:

Race	Citizenship status	Education
Age	Marital status	Poverty level
BMI	General health	Smoking
Pregnancy intention		% of life in the U.S.

Results

- ❖ Reproductive age women with sensory disability were more likely to be
 - Non-citizens
 - Education level of High School diploma or less
 - Marital status of widowed/separated/divorced/living with partner
 - Fair or poor general health status
 - Smoking status of currently smokes

Figure 2. Comparison of prevalence of disability by various relevant characteristics



Table 1. Association between characteristics and pregnancy intention in women of reproductive age

Characteristics	Odds Ratio (95% CI)
N	
Disability	1.85 (0.90, 3.81)
No disability	1.00
Race	
Hispanic	1.18 (0.82, 1.71)
White, Non-Hispanic	1.00
African-American, Non-Hispanic	4.08 (2.20, 7.55)
Others	1.587 (1.00, 2.52)
Age	
18-34	1.00
35-44	0.41 (0.28, 0.61)
Education	
HS Diploma and Less	0.74 (0.47, 1.17)
Some college, vocational, AA/AS degree	0.91 (0.61, 1.35)
BA/BS Degree and Above	1.00
Marital status	
Married	1.00
Other Wid/Sep/Div/Living w/ Partner	0.44 (0.28, 0.69)
Never Married	0.10 (0.06, 0.16)
Poverty Level	
0-99% Federal Poverty Level	1.00
100-199% Federal Poverty Level	0.97 (0.56, 1.67)
200-299% Federal Poverty Level	0.79 (0.41, 1.50)
300% Federal Poverty Level and Above	1.52 (0.91, 2.54)

- ❖ Unadjusted rate of pregnancy intention in women with sensory disability found to be:
 - Pregnancy Intention Among Women With Disability %
 - 7.4%
 - Pregnancy Intention Among Women Without Disability %:
 - 6.8%
 - With a p-value of 0.3526
- ❖ Pregnancy intention in women with sensory disabilities was 85% higher compared to women without disability
 - Adjusted OR: 1.849, 95% CI: 0.898, 3.808
 - This association is not statistically significant
- ❖ Women of reproductive age with sensory disability have the same odds of having pregnancy intention as women without, if not more.

Discussion

- ❖ The outcome may be influenced by limitations such as:
 - Limited sample size
 - Self-reported survey data
 - Limited range of disability data due to survey questions
 - This study is cross sectional
- ❖ However
 - Data is representative of California's population
 - First study based in California to cover this topic

Conclusion

- ❖ Women of reproductive age with sensory disability may have similar odds of pregnancy intention compared to those without, if not more.
- ❖ More research is warranted to further understand reproductive health needs of women with disabilities.

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