

Undergraduate Research Symposium May 19, 2017 Mary Gates Hall

Online Proceedings

POSTER SESSION 4

Commons West, Easel 40

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Food Adversions during Pregnancy Sickness

Yesenia Navarro Aguirre, Senior, Anthropology: Human Evolutionary Biology, Anthropology: Anth of Globalization
Mentor: Darryl Holman, Anthropology

In modern medicine little has been done on non-western populations related to pregnancy sickness symptoms. Questions about why certain foods cause pregnancy sickness have never been looked at in rural parts of the world. The purpose of this study is to find certain association among pregnancy-related sickness and women of color , which could in fact be a cultural or population specific behavior. Our hypothesis was that certain foods would be correlated with pregnancy-related sickness in pregnant mothers in Bangladesh, India. The data set that was used was from a study, “Hormones and Pregnancy-Related sickness in Bangladesh”. This study was conducted in a rural part of Bangladesh in order to investigate the association between reproductive hormones and nausea, vomiting and dizziness in pregnancy. The aim of this study was to be able to correlate the effect of hormones on the severity of the pregnancy related symptom by using repeated-measures logistic regression analysis of 1,232 observations from 115 women in the first twenty weeks of pregnancy. Urine samples were taken from these women along with survey data that asked them about food adversions and also the severity of their pregnancy-related symptoms. The methodology of this study will primarily use a cross-sectional analysis of survey data taken and the urine samples taken as well during the initial study to see possible correlations. The results help understand whether there are correlations to specific food adversions and also higher levels of hormones in the urine samples which would indicate some biological mechanism to food adersion in pregnant women.