

Assessment of Pregnancy Cigarette Smoking and Factors That Predict Denial

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Objectives: To determine rates of pregnancy smoking concealment compared to behavioral observation and to identify factors predicting untruthful denial. **Methods:** Review of 843 delivery charts. **Results:** Based on observation during delivery hospitalization, 8% of smokers denied at hospital admission, 16% denied throughout prenatal care. Compared with those admitting smoking, false deniers had higher levels of education, incomes and ad-

equated prenatal care utilization; and were less likely to have drug use, STDs, or hepatitis C. Observation was a valid tool for assessing smoking status. **Conclusions:** Typical concealers were those considered lower risk, increasing the chance they would go undetected as smokers.

Key words: pregnancy smoking, smoking denial, smoking assessment, behavioral observation, rural health

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