# FINDING GOLDILOCKS: HOW MUCH INFORMATION IS "JUST RIGHT" IN PREGNANCY IMMUNISATION DECISION MAKING?



Dr Kerrie Wiley, Associate Professor Julie Leask



# **Antenatal care in Australia**



# **MumVacc Study**

Mixed methods study: 815 women surveyed, 20 semistructured qualitative interviews

## **HOSPITAL ANTENATAL CLINIC**

Midwife + Obstetrician (vaccine available at some clinics but not all)

## **GP SHARED CARE**

General Practitioner, with some antenatal clinic visits at important milestones (vaccine available at GPs)

### **BIRTH CENTRE**

Midwife-led, low risk pregnancies (vaccine generally not available on site)

# **Results – Health Care Provider Importance**

*"If the doctor or midwife recommends it, or highly recommends it, yeah I would go do it"* 



www.oxfordmail.com

– Sarah, Outer Suburbs

Recommendation = 20 times more likely to be vaccinated Wiley *et al*, MJA 2013; 198: 373–375

# GPs not confident in their knowledge, need more information

Maher et al. BMC Family Practice 2014;15(1): 102.



# **Results – disease risk perception**

- Almost all responses framed in relation to risk to the baby
  - Influenza disease of mother, not baby.
  - Whooping cough disease affecting baby, therefore comparatively more severe

"My perception is that there is no negative effect on the baby if I got the flu. It's more just the trauma on your own body, I guess, plus having it. Whereas I think, my perception of whooping cough is more that there can be a serious consequence for the baby."

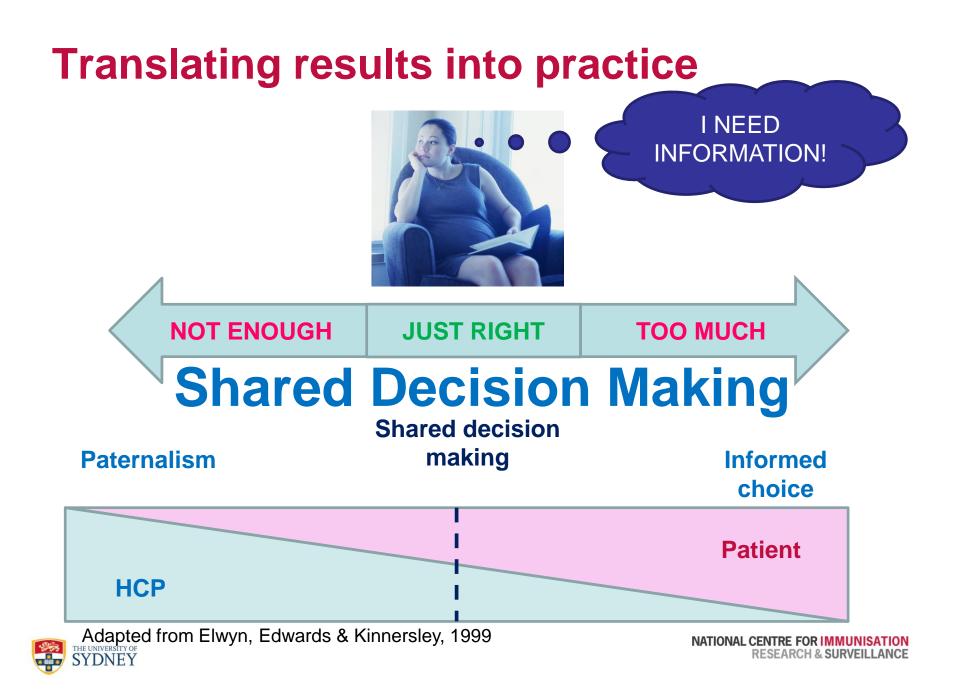
- Zara, Inner city



# **Results – spectrum of vaccination behaviours**

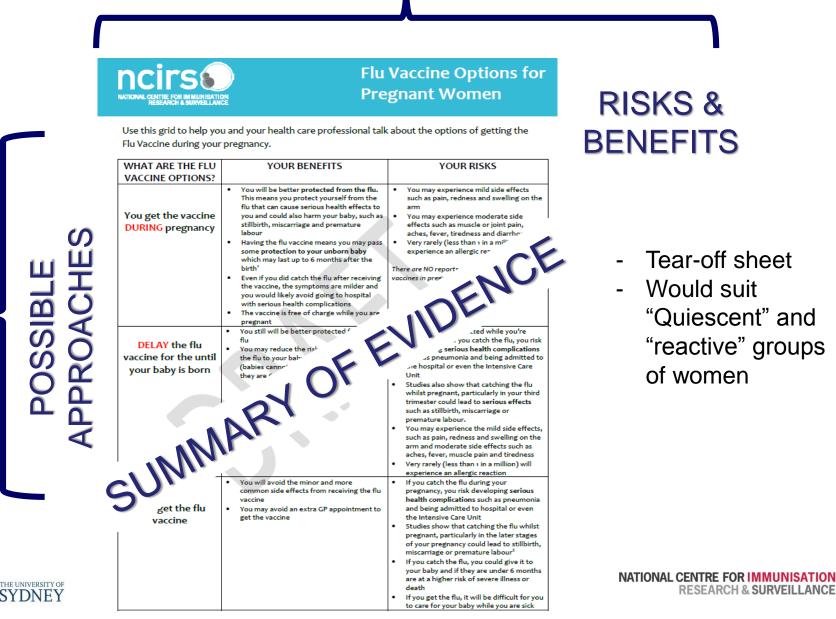
 Spectrum of reproductive citizenship types		Information-seeking behaviour	Vaccination behaviour	Type of engagement with HCP
Quiescent	<i>"If the doctor would have instructed me then I would have taken it"</i>	Takes information given to them by health care professionals, does not actively seek information	Takes up the vaccine without question if recommended to them	Uses HCP for information, prioritization & direction
Reactive	<i>"Someone at work had it[pertussis]that prompted me to look online and see about the dangers"</i>	Seeks information only if prompted to do so (e.g. through experience)	Takes up the vaccine opportunistically, based on perceived need and availability	Uses HCP for information and direction
Proactive	I'm coveredand I've had everyone in my family covered, have the vaccinations." OR "I didn't. She [The GP] recommended that I doand I considered it, talked about it with my husband, and I decided not to do it."		Actively seeks or refuses vaccination for self and / or family	Uses HCP as "sounding board" bu ultimately makes own decision





# **OPTION GRID**

### For use during antenatal consult



# **OPTION GRID**

If you would like more information go to www.fluvaccinedecisions.com.au . You will find a Decision Aid which will help you decide with option is right for you If you do not have access to the internet, ask your GP for a copy of the Decision Aid.

What are the current National Recommendations in Australia?

The Australian Immunisation Handbook (10<sup>th</sup> Edition) recommends the influenza vaccine for pregnant women and is safe to administer during any stage of pregnancy.

Reference: 10<sup>th</sup> Edition of "The Australian Immunisation Handbook"

#### What's happening elsewhere in the world?

In the United States of America: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), the American College of Nurse-Midwives, the American Academy of Pediatrics strongly recommend a flu shot for pregnant women. Reference: www.cdc.gov

In the United Kingdom: The National Health Service recommends that all pregnant women have the flu vaccine, whatever stage of pregnancy they're at.

#### Reference: www.nhs.uk

In New Zealand: The Ministry of Health states pregnant women are strongly advised to be immunised as pregnancy places a woman at greater risk of complications from influenza."

Reference: www.health.govt.nz

#### What are other women doing?

Up to 40%<sup>3</sup> of Australian pregnant women have the flu vaccine, although this varies across Australia<sup>4</sup>.

In addition, in a study, pregnant women said they would be 20 times more likely to get the flu vaccine if it was recommended by their health care provider. <sup>4</sup>

#### References

- Zaman K, Roy E, Arifeen SE, Rahman M, Raqib R, Wilson E, et al. Effectiveness of maternal influenza immunization in mothers and infants. The New England journal of medicine. 2009,359(15):1555-64.
- Tamma PD, Steinhoff MC, Omer SB. Influenza infection and vaccination in Med. 2010;4(3):321-8.
- 3. McCarthy EA, Pollock WE, Nolan T, Hay S, McDonald S. Improving influenza vaccination coverage in pregnancy
- in Melbourne 2010-2011. The Australian & New Zealand journal of obstetrics & gynaecology. 2012;52(4):334-41.
- Wiley KE, Massey PD, Cooper SC, Wood NJ, Ho J, Quinn HE, et al. Uptake of influenza vaccine by pregnant women: a cross-sectional survey. The Medical Journal of Australia. 2013;198(7):373-5.



# National Recommendations

# What's happening globally

# What are other women doing?

# References for evidence

# **DECISION AID**



# Should I get the

Whooping Cough Vaccine?

A decision tool for pregnant women



•IPDAS

•LINKS TO

PUBLISHED

PERSONAL

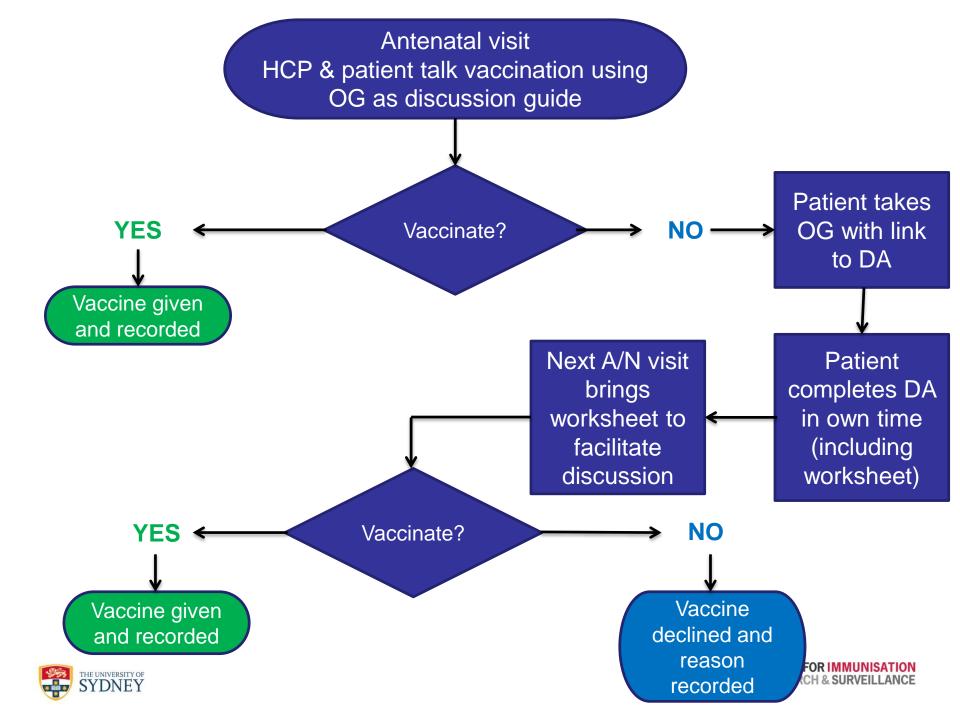
WORKSHEET

VALUES

**EVIDENCE** 

COMPREHENSIVE





# Next steps

- Feasibility testing underway with providers
- Planned pilot study in different antenatal care settings
- Culturally and linguistically diverse materials
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and their providers





# **Our Collaborators**

- Peter Massey (Tamworth)
- Audrey Raeburn
- Patrick Cashman
- Spring Cooper
- Nick Wood



- Dr Robert Ogle, Maureen Ryan Christine Crealy and the Antenatal Clinic and Birth Centre staff at RPA
- Dr Richard Bellingham, Kathy Gordon, Pamela Leslie and the Antenatal Clinic Staff at Westmead Hospital
- Dr. Ken Apen, Robyn Skewes, Rose Wadwell and the Antenatal Clinic Staff at Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital





