ORAL HEALTH should be considered an important part of prenatal care because poor oral health during pregnancy can lead to poor birth outcomes. Maternal oral health status is also a strong predictor of offspring oral health status.*

**TOP 3 BARRIERS TO DENTAL CARE DURING PREGNANCY**

**WHITE**
1. Could not afford to go to the dentist (20%)
2. Did not think it was safe to go to the dentist during pregnancy (7%)
3. Could not find a dentist that would take Medicaid patients (4%)

**AMERICAN INDIAN**
1. Did not think it was safe to go to the dentist during pregnancy (23%)
2. Could not afford to go to the dentist (18%)
3. Could not find a dentist that would take Medicaid patients (15%)

**OTHER RACES**
1. Could not afford to go to the dentist (21%)
2. Did not think it was safe to go to the dentist during pregnancy (16%)
3. Could not find a dentist that would take Medicaid patients (7%)

**RISK FACTORS OR BEHAVIORS ASSOCIATED WITH MOTHERS WHO DID NOT HAVE THEIR TEETH CLEANED DURING PREGNANCY WERE:**
- Being uninsured
- Smoking 3 months before pregnancy
- Illicit drug use 3 months before pregnancy
- Delayed or no prenatal care
- Attended less than 80% of prenatal care visits
- Emotional abuse during pregnancy
- Low birth weight
- Never breast fed
- Baby being exposed to smoke
- Having an ACE Score of 4 or more

**CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED WITH MOTHERS WHO HAD THEIR TEETH CLEANED DURING THEIR PREGNANCY WERE:**
- White
- Non-Hispanic
- Older
- More years of education
- Married
- Higher household income