

Understanding Medication Use During Pregnancy

SUMMARY REPORT - DECEMBER 2023



254 participants

When asked what medications were safe to take during pregnancy, 20% indicated marijuana was safe to take, and 55% reported anything prescribed by their OBGYN or CNM was safe to take during pregnancy.



Less than half of respondents

understand what their prescribed medications are for or why they were prescribed them.

Overall, women reported they stopped taking medications because:

- They thought they should
- They did not want anyone to know they were taking medications
- They thought they did not need medications during pregnancy
- They could not afford their medications
- 20% felt they were going to hurt their baby by taking the medications



THIS CONFUSION COULD HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED WITH A TRUSTED CONVERSATION BETWEEN A PROVIDER AND PATIENT.

Just over 85%

(85.43%) of respondents felt comfortable asking their health care provider questions.

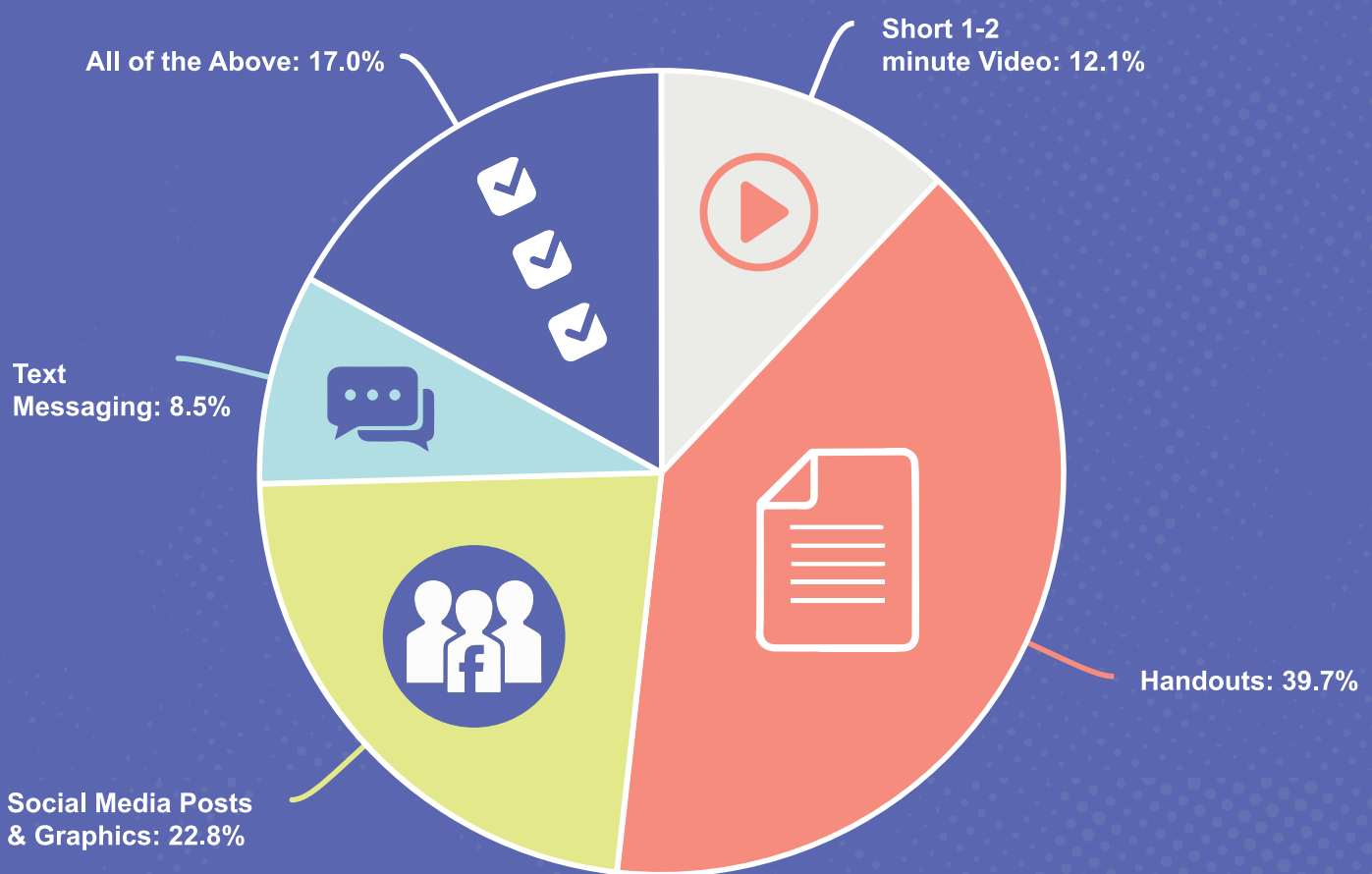


Yet, when asked why they don't ask their provider questions

93.98%

of respondents reported not knowing what questions to ask, their provider not having enough time to answer their questions, and in general fear of asking their provider questions.

TO AID IN REDUCING CONFUSION, **WOMEN** REPORTED THEY WOULD **PREFER** EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTIONS IN **HANDOUT FORMAT** ALONG WITH **SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS** AND **GRAPHICS**.



THIS TRUSTED RELATIONSHIP WOULD ALLOW AN OPEN DIALOGUE WITH PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS AND WOULD AID IN ELIMINATING THE CONFUSION RELATED TO TAKING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS DURING PREGNANCY.

To optimize maternal and fetal safety, providers are encouraged to:

- Take time to listen to patients
- Respect how women plan to incorporate any medical treatment plan into their own lifestyle without bias or assumptions
- Offer information and credible resources so patients can learn more
- Ensure that women understand the reasons for and usage of any prescribed medications

