

# The Role of Nurses in Comprehensive Care Management With DRUG



# of Pregnant Women ADDICTION

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Abuse of drugs such as heroin, morphine, oxycodone and other narcotic analgesics during pregnancy has significant implications for maternal and newborn health (Goodman, 2011). According to a 2013 report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which looked at data collected from 2011 to 2012, 5.9 percent of pregnant women ages 15 to 44 used illicit substances, an increase from 4.5 percent in 2009 (SAMHSA, 2010). The report also found that substance abuse during pregnancy is highest in younger women and lowest in older women, as follows: 18.3 percent of women ages 15 to 17, 9.0 percent of women ages 18 to 25 and 3.4 percent of women ages 26 to 44 (SAMHSA, 2013).

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**Abstract:** Drug addiction during pregnancy is a complex health and social issue that requires an interdisciplinary health care team providing non-judgmental, comprehensive care. Critical challenges include onset of and attendance at prenatal care, potential obstetric complications, transition to extrauterine life and potential neonatal abstinence syndrome for the neonate, newborn feeding issues, postpartum depression and risk of relapse for women. DOI: 10.1111/1751-486X.12134

**Keywords:** buprenorphine | drug addiction | methadone | opioids | pregnancy

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