

Are pregnant women with COVID-19 at greater risk for severe illness?

Although the absolute risks for severe outcomes for women are low, pregnant women are at increased risk for severe COVID-19–associated illness. Compared with nonpregnant women of reproductive-age (15 to 44 years), pregnant women with laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 from across the United States are more likely to undergo intensive care unit admission and invasive ventilation, receive extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, and die.

Pregnant Women

Nonpregnant Women

ICU admission^a

10.5 vs 3.9

Invasive ventilation^a

2.9 vs 1.1

Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation^a

0.7 vs 0.3

Death^a

1.5 vs 1.2

Pregnant women should be counseled to seek prompt medical care for any symptoms of COVID-19 and to practice preventive measures during all prenatal care visits

^aPer 1,000 cases.

Source: Burke RM, Killerby ME, Newton S, et al. Symptom profiles of a convenience sample of patients with COVID-19—United States, January–April 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep.* 2020;69:904-908.