

# Pregnancy Risk Occurrences in the CNMI

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# Introduction

- The purpose of this research is to advise the community what are common risks pregnant teens and tourists may experience when going through their labor in the CNMI.
- Its main focus is to point out difficulties that may occur if safety precautions are not taken seriously or considered.



# Primary Questions

- 1) Does teenage pregnancy put the young mother's health at high risk?
- 2) Do you think that pregnant women who board flights close to their due date risk their health than those who do not?



# Feedback on Primary Questions

In order to answer these questions, data was collected through a conducted survey. People expressed their opinions on the risks stated for pregnant women. A major factor was the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) due to the lack of equipment, staff, and resources. A few also stated their concerns about how patients in need of urgent care are often referred off island due to the lack of specialists in certain fields such a pediatric care.



# Survey

The survey received a total of 18 responses that included options for the survey taker to provide their opinion on the issue. This survey was allotted two weeks to receive the necessary responses. The short time frame was due to the change in topic from Inconveniences Caused by Foreigners.



# Other Sources

Another source used to support the research was the internet. Most of the information retrieved were from medical websites such as WebMD and the Mayo Clinic.

*Web*MD




# Analysis

The analytical process used to answer these question included statements from women who experienced difficulties whether it be physical, emotional, mental, medical or financial hardships.

Respondent #17 stated:

“No pregnancy or health difficulties. More like mental, emotional and moral difficulties because you have to learn how to care for a child when you’re still a child yourself.”



# Important External Factor

An important external factor to this research would be the rapid population growth in the CNMI due to the newly built casino and other resorts. The need for construction staff and hotel and casino employees have been involved in the rise of Saipan's population.

A few medical specialists who were under the Contract Worker Program ended up being sent home due the decreasing cap for each fiscal year.





# Survey Results

Due to the anonymity of the survey, the findings presented results from teen moms and those who know someone who may have been. For the flight risk portion, most agreed that flying while pregnant varies depending on the situation and how long the flight would be. Many of the respondents also considered the risks of long flights without a doctor present, especially when the woman has medical complications.

A comment that came up was in regards to Chinese tourists vacationing for 45 days just to give their child birth right to U.S. citizenship.



# Research Weakness

A weakness for the research proposal was the amount of sources relied on. The CNMI Archives and NMC Library were open for only a certain amount of hours for the day which became challenging due to the researcher's work hours.



# Educational Process

Something that may have been done differently for this research would be to interview more and receive at least 40 responses from the community including tourists who may have their share of experience with pregnancy flights.

For those interested in this similar topic, it is highly suggested to ensure that all available resources be used to properly deliver solutions to this issue. Teen and Tourist Pregnancy aren't often discussed within the community so when complications arise, the victims don't have a proper guideline on what to do should this occur.



# Conclusion

In conclusion, awareness of the said risks plays an important role to finding a solution for these hazards.

A solution to this issue would be for CHCC and other private clinics to hire more specialists in the women and pediatrics field. CHCC has many nurses, but lacks doctors and physicians that are capable of providing the needed care. Even private hospitals such as Marianas Medical Center and Saipan Health Clinic don't have adequate medical staff to support the needs of patients from Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

