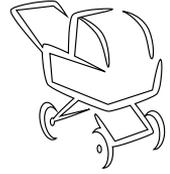


Important Information About PRAMS

Please Read Before Starting the Survey



- The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a research project sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Iowa Department of Public Health.
- The purpose of the study is to find out why some babies are born healthy and others are not.
- We are asking 1800 women per year in Iowa to answer the same questions. All of your names were picked by a computer from recent birth certificates.
- It takes about 20 minutes to answer all questions. Some questions may be sensitive, such as questions about smoking or drinking during pregnancy.
- You are free to do the survey or not. If you don't want to participate at all, or if you don't want to answer a particular question, that's okay. There is no penalty or loss of benefits for not participating or answering all questions.
- Your survey may be combined with information the health department has from other sources.
- If you choose to do the survey, your answers will be kept private and will be used only to answer questions related to the purpose of this study. This is so because this study has been given a Certificate of Confidentiality. This means that we may not share information that may identify you in legal suits or proceedings, even if a court orders us to do so, unless you say it's ok.
- If you are currently in jail, your participation in the study will have no effect on parole.
- Your name will not be on any reports from PRAMS. The booklet has a number so we will know when it is returned.
- Your answers will be grouped with those from other women. What we learn from PRAMS will be used to plan programs to help mothers and babies in Iowa.
- If you have any questions about your rights in the project, please call Rebecca Rinehart at 319-273-6148.

If you have questions about PRAMS, or if you want to answer the questions by telephone, please call the Iowa PRAMS Project Coordinator, at 1-800-383-3826. The call is free.