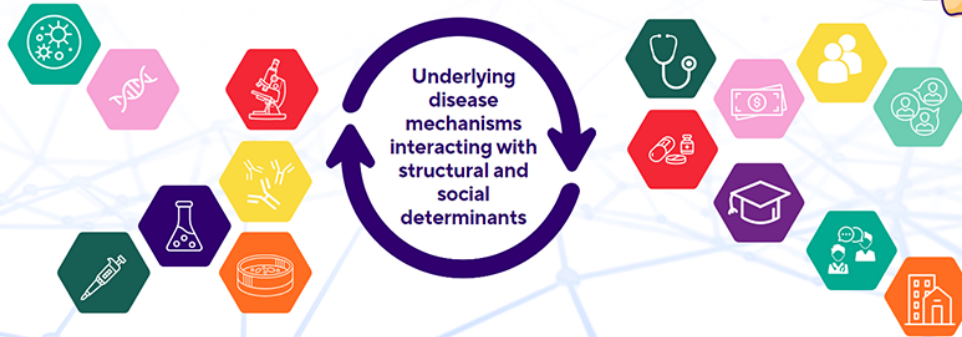




19TH ANNUAL CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH DAYS
Outcomes in Child Health



October 25 + 26, 2023 | RBC Convention Centre, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Abstract Submission Form

CHRD 2023: Abstract Submission Form

Submitter Name

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Presenter Name

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Presenter Status

Masters Student

Research Category

Community Health / Policy

Role in the project

Design
Analyze Data
Write Abstract

Title

Lactating parents attending the Winnipeg Breastfeeding Centre: A descriptive study

Background

The World Health Organization recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months post-partum and continuation of breastfeeding for at least two years. Yet, 66% of Manitoban mothers did not exclusively breastfeed for six months (2021). The Winnipeg Breastfeeding Centre (WBC) - the first and only breastfeeding clinic in Manitoba - has provided evidence-based medical care and support since 2017 for the breastfeeding and lactating population.

Objective

To better understand the community's needs for lactation care, we aim to describe (1) their demographics and (2) lactation difficulties, diagnoses, and treatments. Moreover, given the influence of COVID-19 on the provision of health services, we also aim to understand (3) the likelihood of follow-up visits after virtual visits.

Methods

We designed this study in collaboration with the WBC clinicians. We will employ a retrospective longitudinal design (2017–2023) and derive data from the WBC questionnaire, electronic medical record visiting notes, and referral forms. We will use descriptive analysis to understand who attends the clinic, their comorbidities, referring health care provider type, referral diagnoses, clinic diagnoses, and intervention(s). We will use Cohen's kappa statistic to examine the concordance between referral and WBC diagnoses.

Results

The project will begin in the fall of 2023. Some of our hypotheses include: (1) most WBC clients are primiparous with high socioeconomic status, and many have a history of cesarean section delivery; (2) midwives' diagnoses of breastfeeding difficulties demonstrate the highest concordance with WBC physicians compared to other provider types; and (3) most clients who received virtual visits required follow-up in-person appointments.

Conclusion

Beyond the discussed aims, we will identify actionable healthcare gaps regarding (1) whether specific populations face referral limitations in receiving services from WBC and (2) whether provider-type-specific patterns exist in the referral process to this clinic.

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