**Concurrent Prenatal Drinking and Smoking Increases Risk for SIDS: Safe Passage Study Report**

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**PURPOSE**

This is the first study of its kind to examine the dual role of drinking and smoking during pregnancy and risk of an infant dying of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

**METHODS**

Study participants (N=11,892) lived in five cities in the U.S. and Cape Town, South Africa. Women were recruited early in pregnancy and followed through the babies first year of life. Women were seen 3-4 times during pregnancy.

**RESULTS**

The risk of SIDS was 12 times greater if the mother drank alcohol and smoked cigarettes beyond the first trimester of pregnancy compared to mothers who did not drink/smoke or quit early.

**IMPLICATIONS OF FINDINGS**

Identify times early in pregnancy to support women to quit drinking and/or smoking. This can help to further reduce the rate of SIDS--one of the top five leading causes of post-neonatal mortality in the U.S.