



Impact Evaluation of Non-Invasive Prenatal Screening in South African Hospitals

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Abstract

Non-invasive prenatal screening (NIPS) is a method used to detect certain genetic conditions in fetuses without invasive procedures. A review of hospital records was conducted, focusing on patient demographics and screening results. The proportion of women opting for NIPS increased from 35% to 48% over the study period. NIPS has become more widely accepted in South African hospitals, with a notable increase in uptake. Further education programmes on NIPS benefits should be implemented to enhance acceptance and utilization. Treatment effect was estimated with $\text{text}\{ \text{logit} \}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta^T p X_i$, and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

Keywords: *African demographics, Non-invasive prenatal screening, Genetic counseling, Biomarkers, Maternal serum AFP, Preconception care, Fetal ultrasound examination*

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