

# Medication use during pregnancy is common in women with preeclampsia

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Use of medications during pregnancy is more common in women with preeclampsia than in those without, according to an analysis of women who gave birth at a hospital in Finland in 2002-2016.

In the *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* analysis of 1,252 women who had preeclampsia and 1,256 controls without preeclampsia, 59.5% of [women](#) with preeclampsia and 35.5% of controls used at least one [drug](#) during pregnancy. In both groups, the most commonly used drugs were antibiotics, hypertensive medications, and paracetamol (acetaminophen).

"During pregnancy, certain drugs may be necessary to ensure maternal and sometimes also fetal health. However, since the [fetus](#) is very sensitive to the effects of chemicals, the use and choice of drugs to be taken during pregnancy should always be considered carefully," the authors wrote.

**More information:** H. Sahlman et al, Maternal use of drugs and preeclampsia, *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* (2019). [DOI: 10.1111/bcp.14117](#)

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