

Pregnancy outcomes examined for women with multiple sclerosis

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for PreMS and PostMS, including <u>cesarean section</u> (37 versus 66 percent; odds ratio, 2.74); suspected relapse during six months after birth (7 versus 18 percent); and breastfeeding (83 versus 67 percent). There was no difference observed between the groups in gestational age and weight/size at birth. Major malformations were similar in the groups.

"More evidence is needed in order to support decision making and to improve the care of <u>women</u> with MS who are of childbearing age," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

More information: Abstract/Full Text (subscription or payment may be required)

(HealthDay)—Women with pregnancy after versus before a multiple sclerosis (MS) diagnosis have fewer children and at an older age, according to a study published in the Feb. 1 issue of *Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders*.

Bernardita Soler, from the Hospital Doctor Sótero del Río in Santiago, Chile, and colleagues explored the trends in pregnancy decision-making and outcomes before and after MS diagnosis (PreMS and PostMS, respectively). A questionnaire was developed for retrospective assessment of pregnancy outcomes; 218 women responded to the questionnaire, of whom 67 did not have pregnancies.

The researchers found that 299 pregnancies were registered, including 223 PreMS (97 women; mean, 2.5 ± 1.3 per women) and 76 PostMS (59 women; mean, 1.9 ± 1.1 per woman). In PreMS and PostMS women, mean age at first pregnancy was 27.6 ± 6.2 and 32.6 ± 4.6 years, respectively. Certain pregnancy outcomes differed significantly

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