Navigating the grey zone: Creating a decision aid for antenatal corticosteroids after 34 weeks' gestation

Why are we doing this study?

Antenatal corticosteroid is a medication that may be offered to a pregnant woman if she has a high chance of delivering preterm. It is usually recommended if a woman is at risk of delivering very early (7 weeks early or more) because the benefits clearly outweigh the risks. This risk-benefit balance is less clear as a woman gets closer to term.

Some experts think pregnant women should use this medication if they are at risk of delivering between 34-36 weeks of gestation (about 4 to 6 weeks early), while others disagree. There is controversy about this decision because different people weigh the risks and benefits of this medication differently. We would like to understand what information pregnant women want to help them decide whether to use this medication or not. Your answers will help us create a tool that patients and doctors can use together to help them discuss this treatment and make the best decision for each patient.

Who are we looking for?

Women at any stage of pregnancy.

What to expect?

We will conduct a 15-minute interview with you. We will ask about your opinions on what patients would want to know when making the decision whether or not to use antenatal corticosteroids, and what tools or information would help them make this decision.

If you would like to participate or have any questions about the study, please contact Jessica Liauw at decisionaid@cw.bc.ca.

