

# \* Gestational Diabetes Update

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Cambridge Memorial Hospital and Langs Community Health Center

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\* Gestational Diabetes risk for South Asians

\* Preliminary descriptive data analysis for the Diabetes and Pregnancy clinic

\* **Agenda**

\* No disclosures

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# \* Acknowledgements & Disclosures

# \* High Risk Ethnic Groups

- \* According to the 2006 census, Canada's visible minority population is growing at a rate of 27%
  - \* 1 in 3 Canadians will belong to a visible minority by 2031
- \* In 2006, South Asians surpassed Chinese to become Canada's largest visible minority group
- \* South Asians have high rates of diabetes and one of the highest rates of premature cardiovascular disease (CVD) in the world
- \* India, together with China and the Middle East, are now considered the "hot spots" of diabetes, with a projected doubling in incidence of the disease over the next 20 years

# \* Risk for GDM in Ethnic Groups

- \* Interrelationship between maternal age, BMI and racial origin

(Makgoba et al., 2011, BJOG)

- \* Retrospective Study
- \* 15 maternity units between 1988 and 2000
- \* Data compared to White European Women age 20-24

# \* Odds Ratios for development of GDM

	White European	Black African	Black Caribbean	South Asian
Age 25-29	1.16	3.40	3.25	3.85
Age 30-34	2.04	6.28	5.23	8.77
Age 35-39	2.97	13.67	1.96	14.05
Age > 40	4.08	59.2	6.87	27.43
BMI 18.5-24.9	1.00	2.62	1.21	3.00
BMI 25.0-29.9	1.77	3.48	3.35	7.70
BMI > 30	4.70	12.83	5.85	17.39

# \* Risk for GDM in Ethnic Groups Cont'd

## Age

- \* Higher risk for developing GDM in:
  - \* White European women age > 30
  - \* Black Africans or Black Carribeans age > 25
  - \* South Asians age > 20
  - \* Rate of GDM rose more rapidly with age

# \* Risk for GDM in Ethnic Groups Cont'd

## BMI

- \* White Europeans and Caribbean groups
  - \* Significantly higher risk in overweight (BMI > 25) and obese (BMI > 30)
- \* Black Africans and South Asians
  - \* Significantly higher risk in all BMI groups



# \* What do we know?

- \* South Asians develop abnormal glucose, lipids and blood pressure at significantly lower BMIs (21) compared to caucasians (30)
- \* Increased tendency to develop visceral abdominal fat and fatty infiltration of the liver
  - \* Reasons for increased metabolic sensitivity to weight gain is unknown

# \* South Asia

India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives

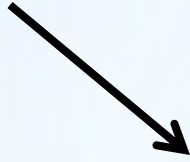
**SOUTH ASIA**



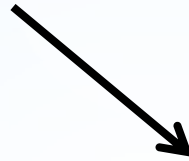
# \* Some Hypotheses...

- \* Low birth weight
  - \* Thin-fat phenotype
  - \* South Asian babies may be smaller but have similar subscapular skin-fold thickness
  
- \* Under nutrition
  - \* Intrauterine under nutrition and increased risk of metabolic syndrome

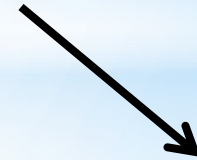
Intrauterine  
Undernutrition



Adaptation of  
fetal physiology  
to increase  
survival



Continues use of  
energy saving  
mechanism in a  
post-natal  
environment rich  
in energy



Increase  
adiposity and  
metabolic  
abnormalities

# \* Hypotheses cont'd

## \* Micronutrients

- \* Higher adipose tissue and insulin resistance in children born to South Asian mothers with low B12 and high Folate concentrations

- \* Large proportion of South Asian women are vegetarians (low B12 intake)

- \* B12 deficiency further masked by folic acid supplementation in pregnancy

# \* Hypotheses cont'd

- \* Low adiponectin levels
  - \* Made by adipose tissue (and placenta in pregnancy)
  - \* Regulates glucose and fat oxidation
  - \* Association with diabetes and metabolic syndrome

# \* Hypotheses cont'd

## \* Maternal glycemic status

- \* Prenatal exposure to maternal diabetes associated with higher risk for overweight and obesity
- \* Increased exposure to glucose, free fatty acids and amino acids results in fetal hyperinsulinemia and larger fat mass

# \* Next steps?

- \* START South Asian Birth Cohort Study
  - \* Find early life determinants of adiposity
- \* Consider early screening and intervention for high risk ethnic groups
- \* Interventions should also focus on long-term diabetes risk not just in pregnancy

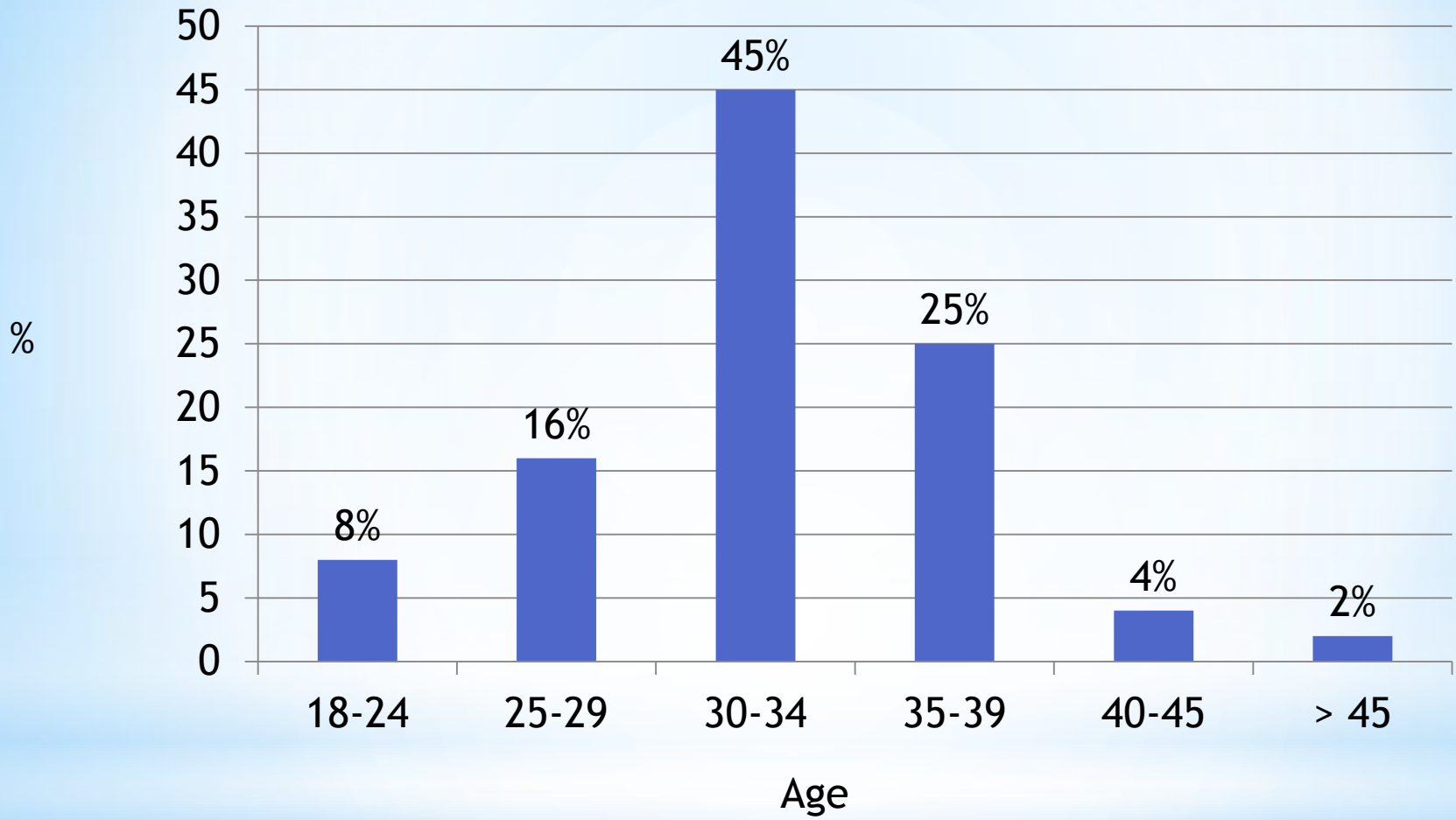


# \* Diabetes and Pregnancy Clinic

(Partnership between Dr. Liutkus and Diabetes Education Program at  
Cambridge Memorial Hospital)

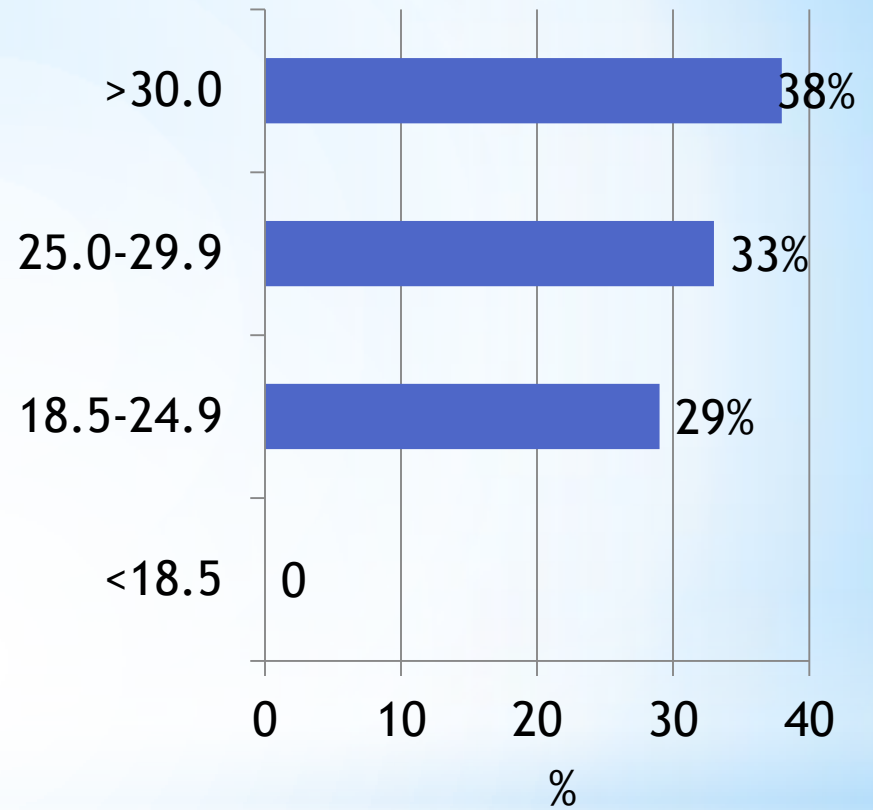
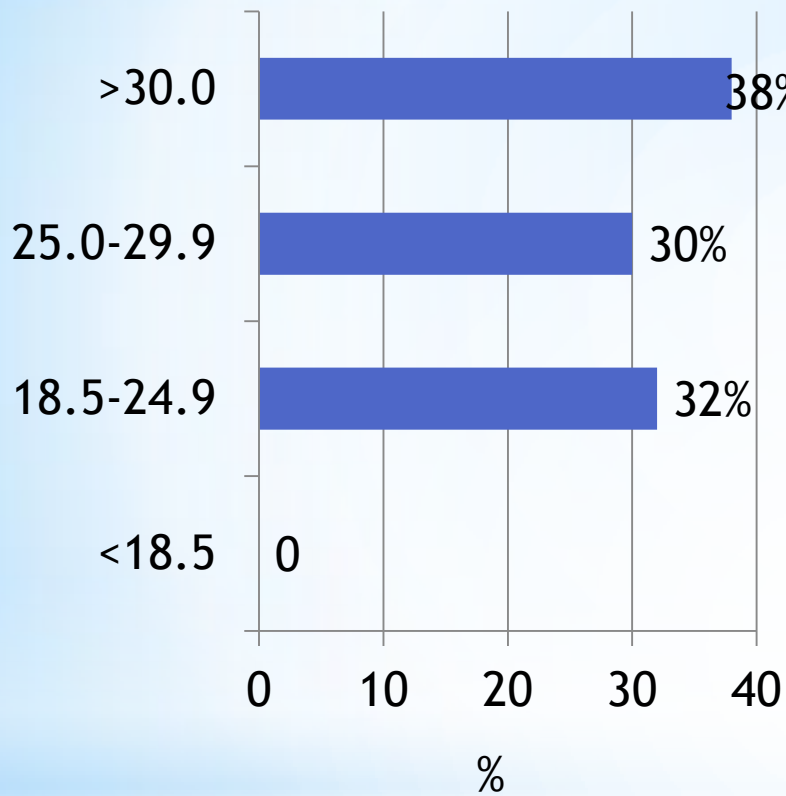
\* N = 83

\* Data collected Sep 2012 to Aug 2013



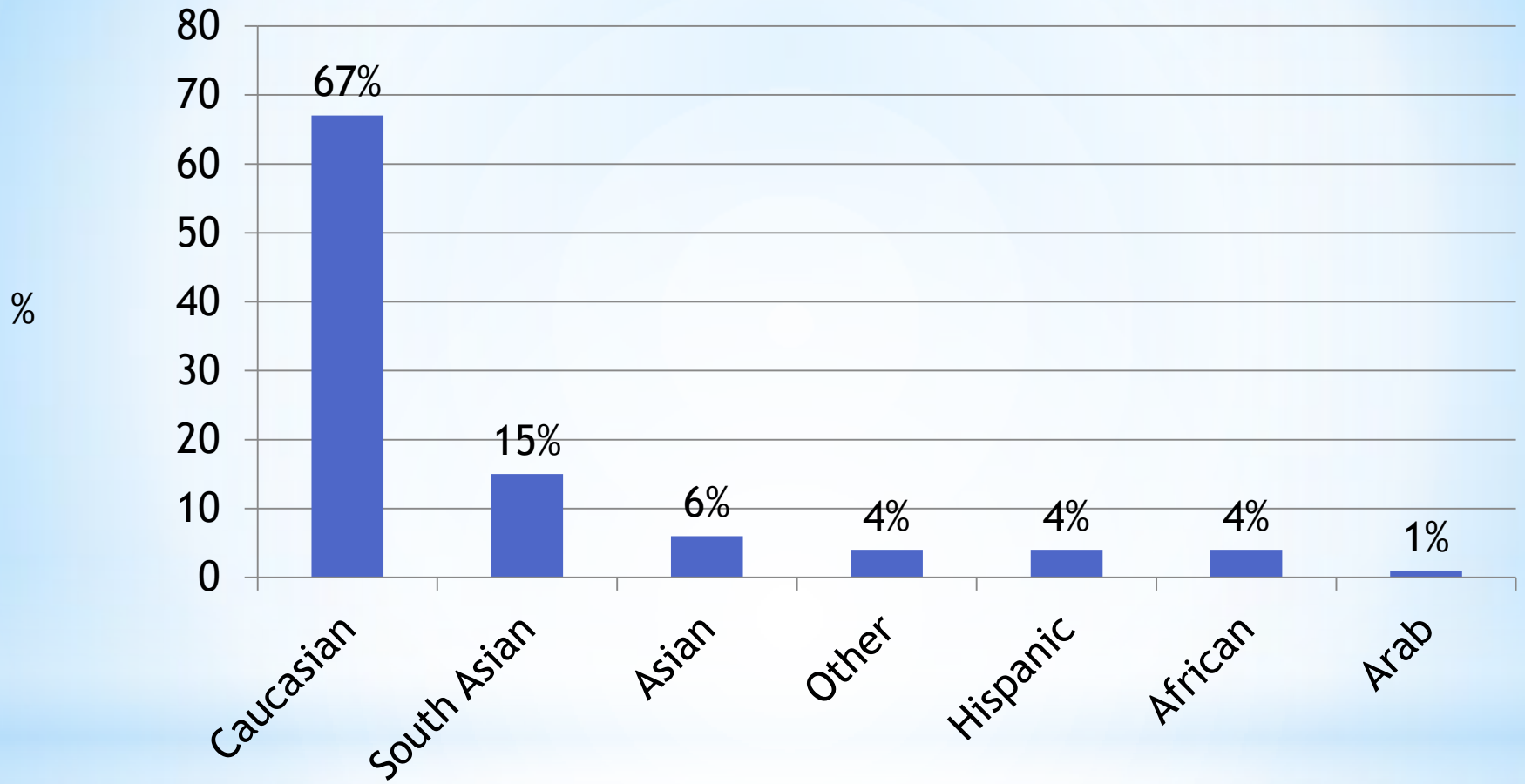
Average age = 31.8

# Age Distribution

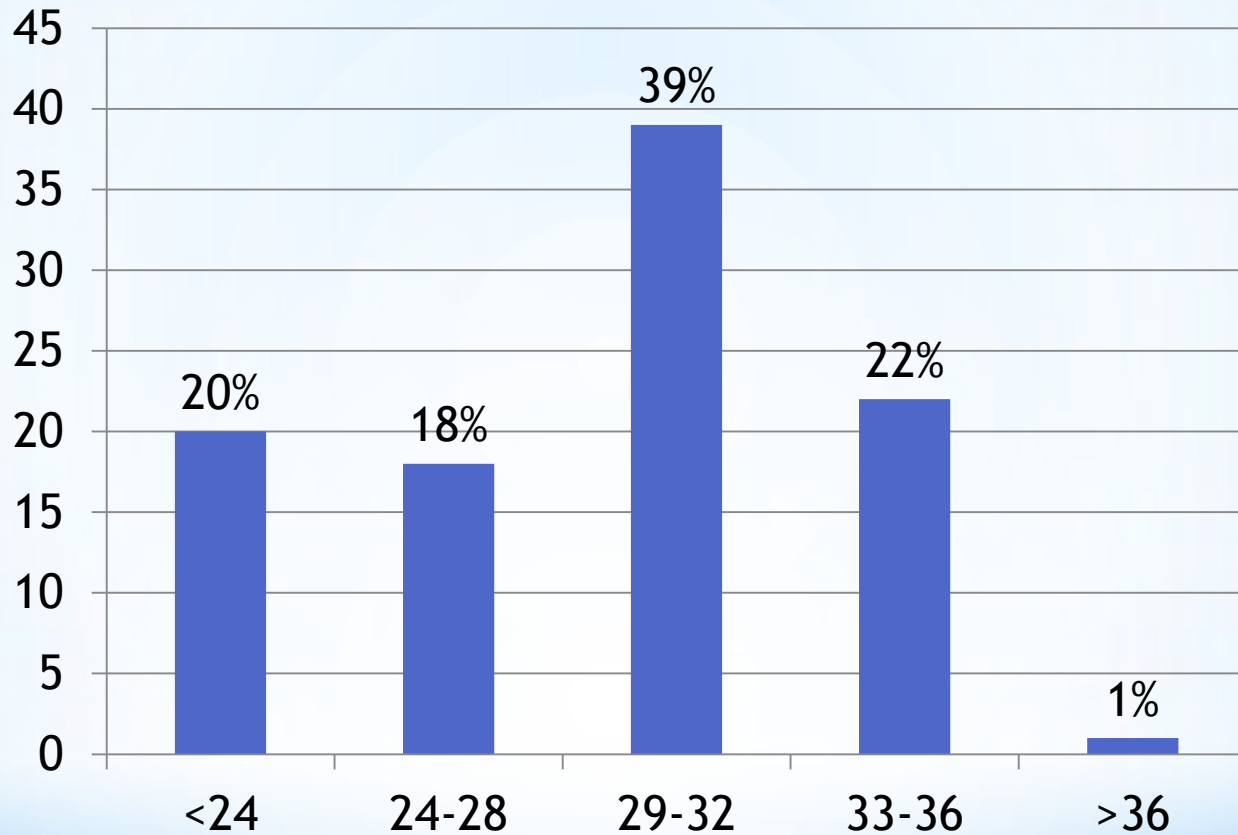


**Pre-pregnancy BMI**

**Postnatal BMI**

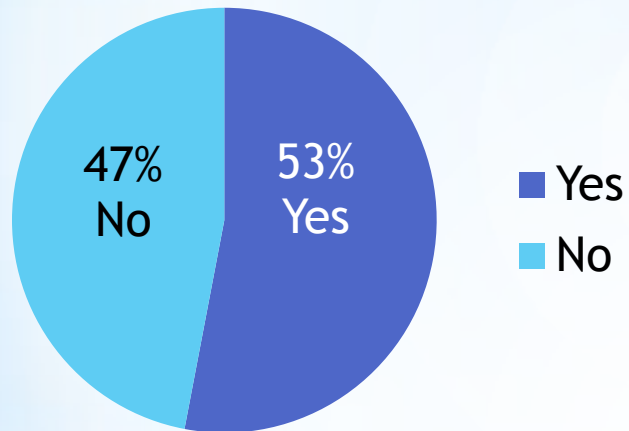


**Ethnicity**

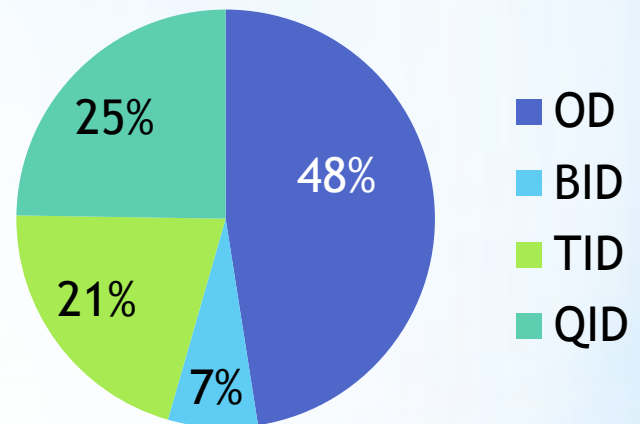


\* Weeks gestation at 1<sup>st</sup> visit

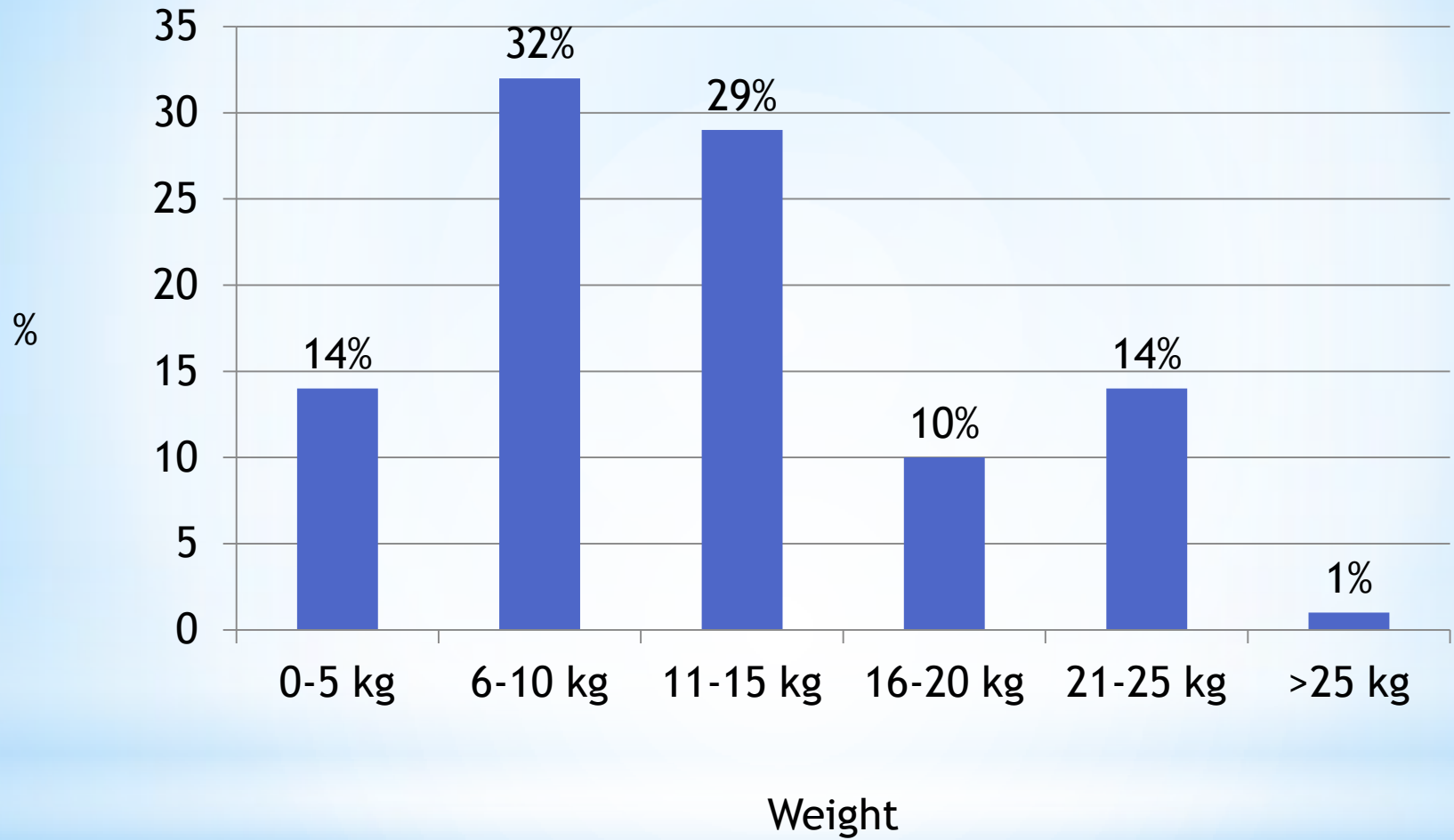
## Insulin Required



## Number of Insulin Injections

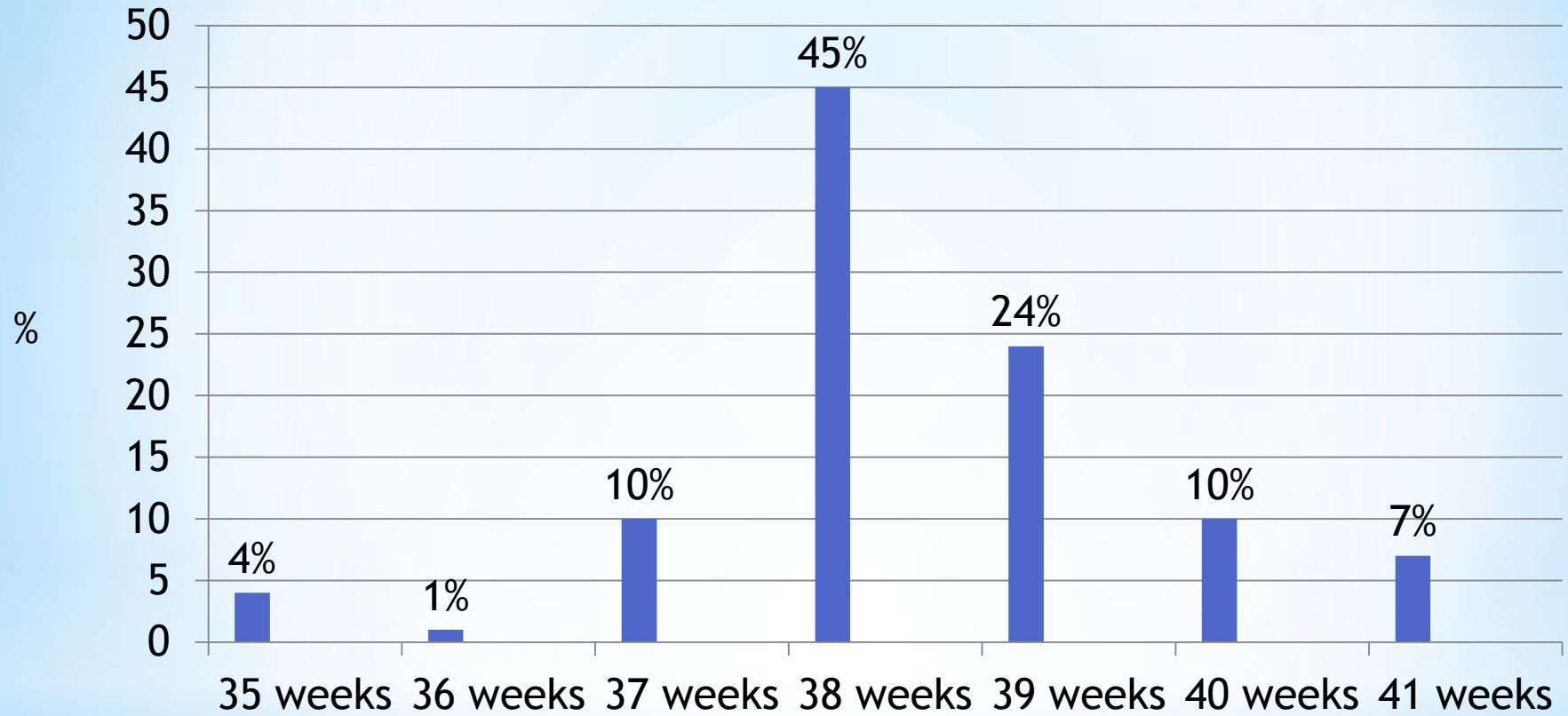


# Insulin requirement



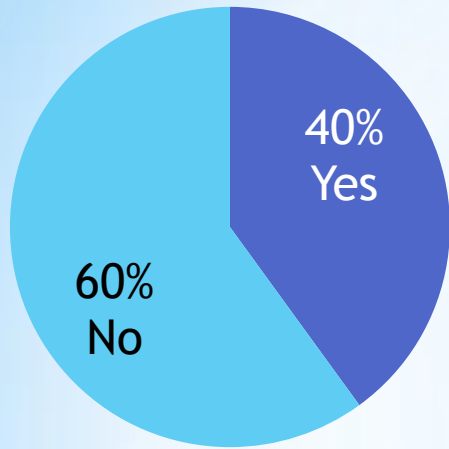
# Total Weight Gain in Pregnancy

Average weeks = 38.4

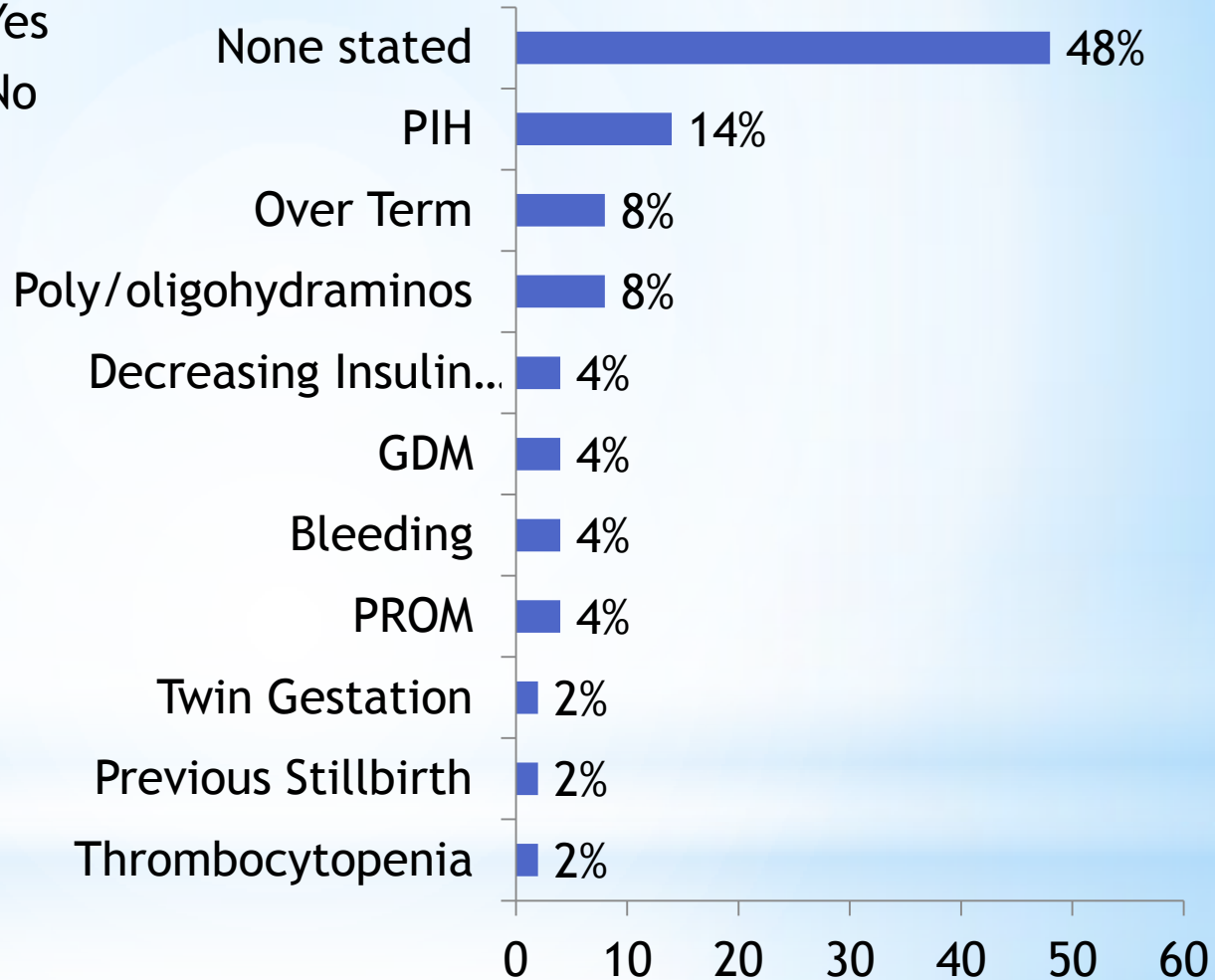


# Weeks Gestation at Delivery



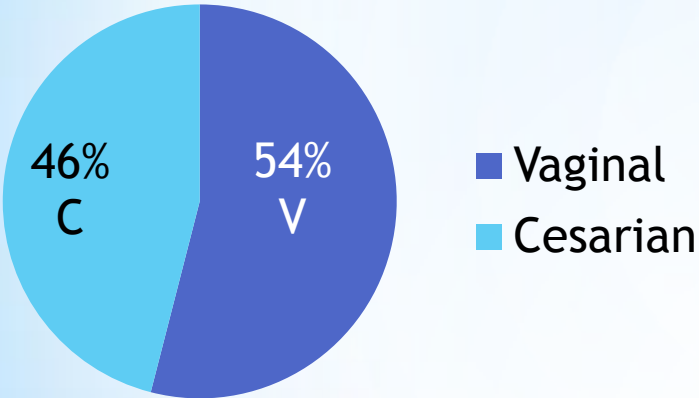


■ Yes  
■ No

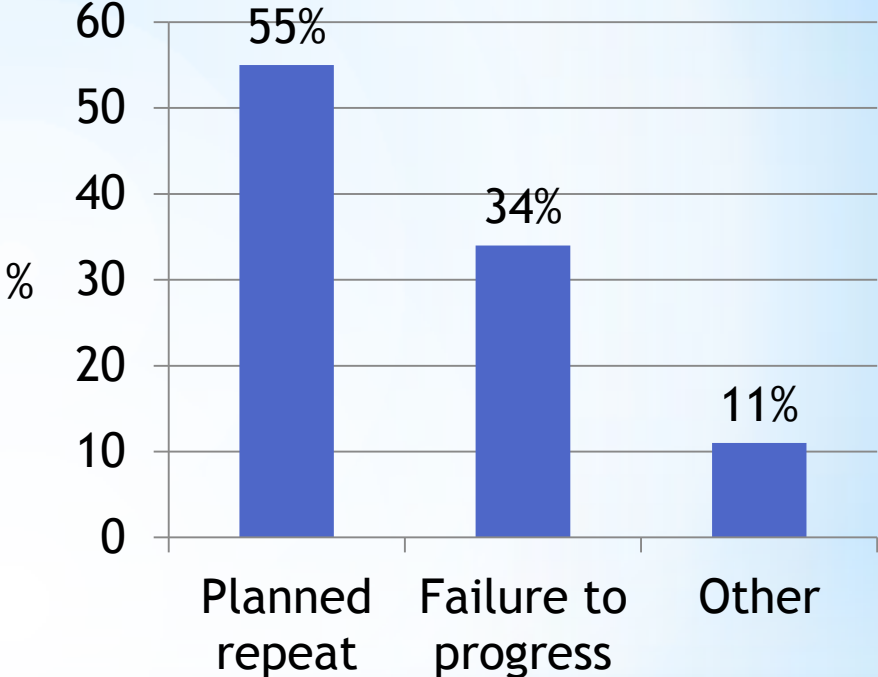


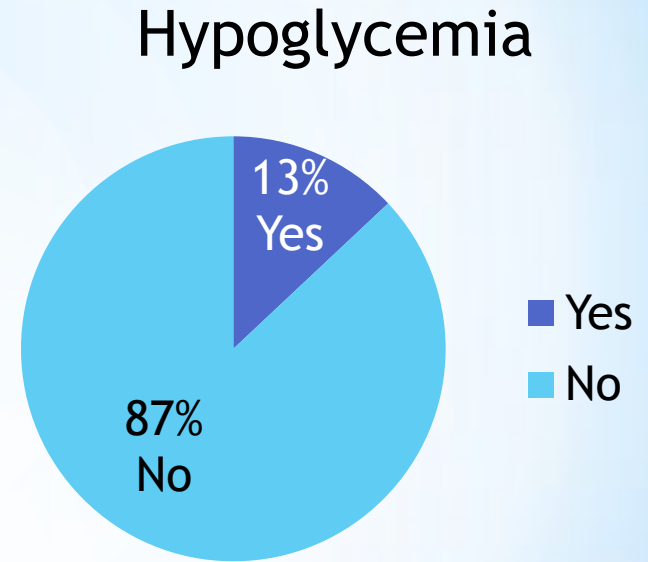
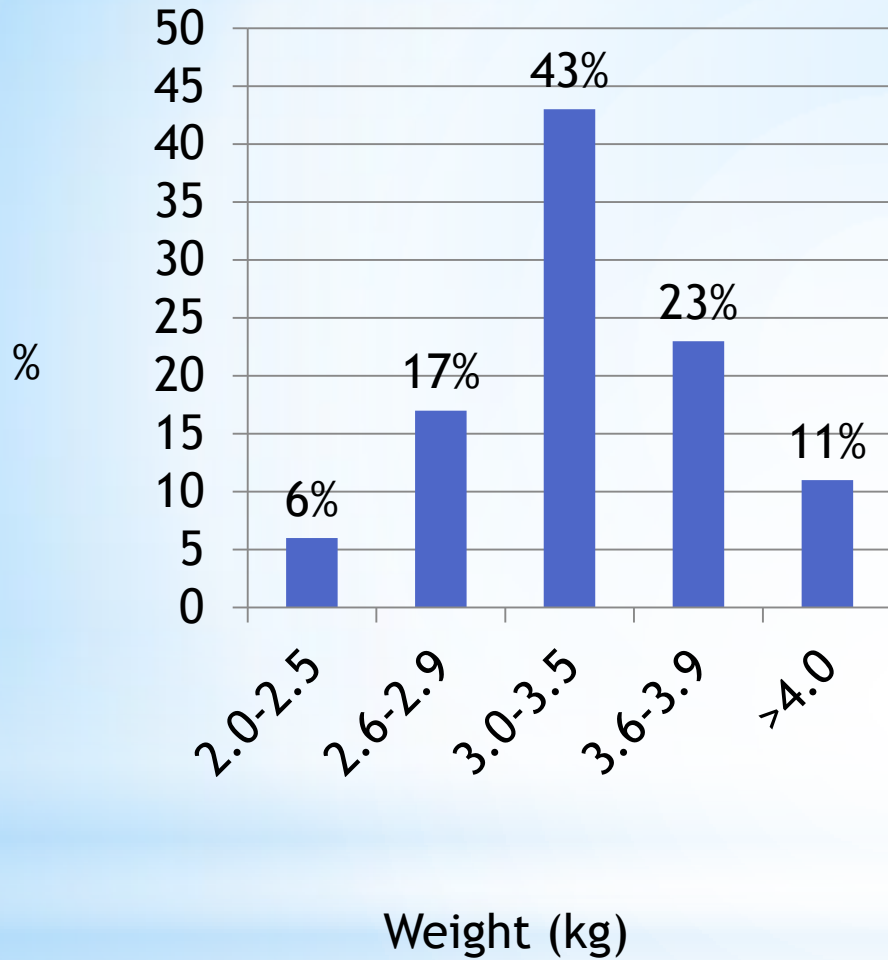
# Induction

# Delivery Type

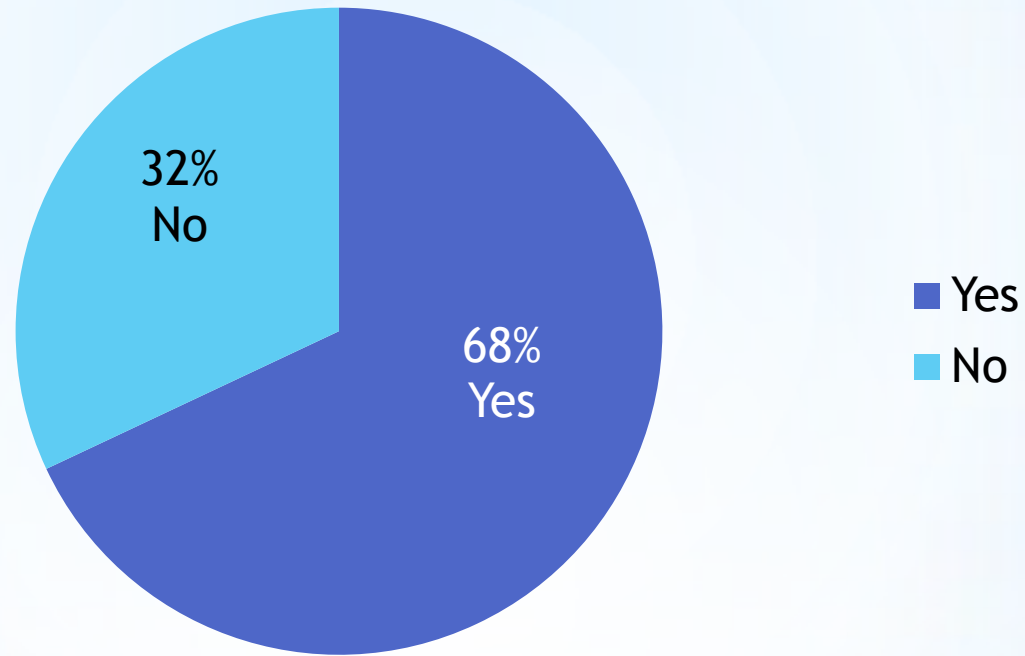


# Reason for C-section





Neonatal data



\* **Breastfeeding**  
at 3 months postpartum

# \*Diabetes and Pregnancy Clinic Outcome Analysis

Postpartum Glucose Tolerance Screening

## \* 50% return for postpartum glucose tolerance testing

(CPG 2013, Schaefer 2009, Kwong 2009)

## \* Women who do not complete postpartum testing tend to:

- \* Previous history of GDM
- \* Have higher diagnostic glucose levels
- \* Required insulin during pregnancy
- \* Had more living children

(Hunt et al 2009, Ferrara et 2009, Kwong 2009)

## \* Barriers to completion of postpartum screening:

- \* Discontinuity of care after delivery
- \* Underestimating diabetes risk
- \* Lack of child care
- \* Stress of adapting to caring for a new baby

(Schaefer-Graf 2009, Kwong 2009)

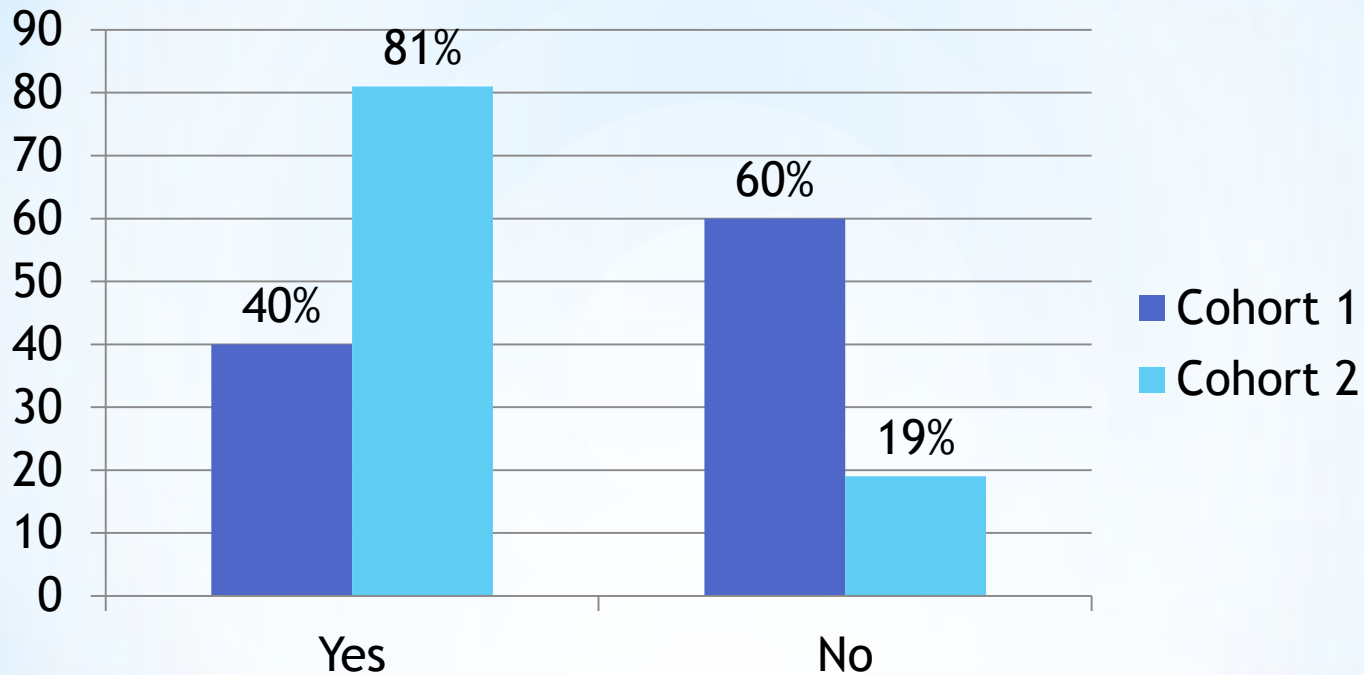
## Cohort 1

- \* Sep 2011 to Aug 2012
- \* N=78
- \* Given postpartum OGTT requisition at initial consult
- \* No postpartum follow-up

## Cohort 2

- \* Sep 2012 to Aug 2013
- \* N=71
- \* Given postpartum OGTT requisition at initial consult
- \* Given 3 month postpartum follow-up visit

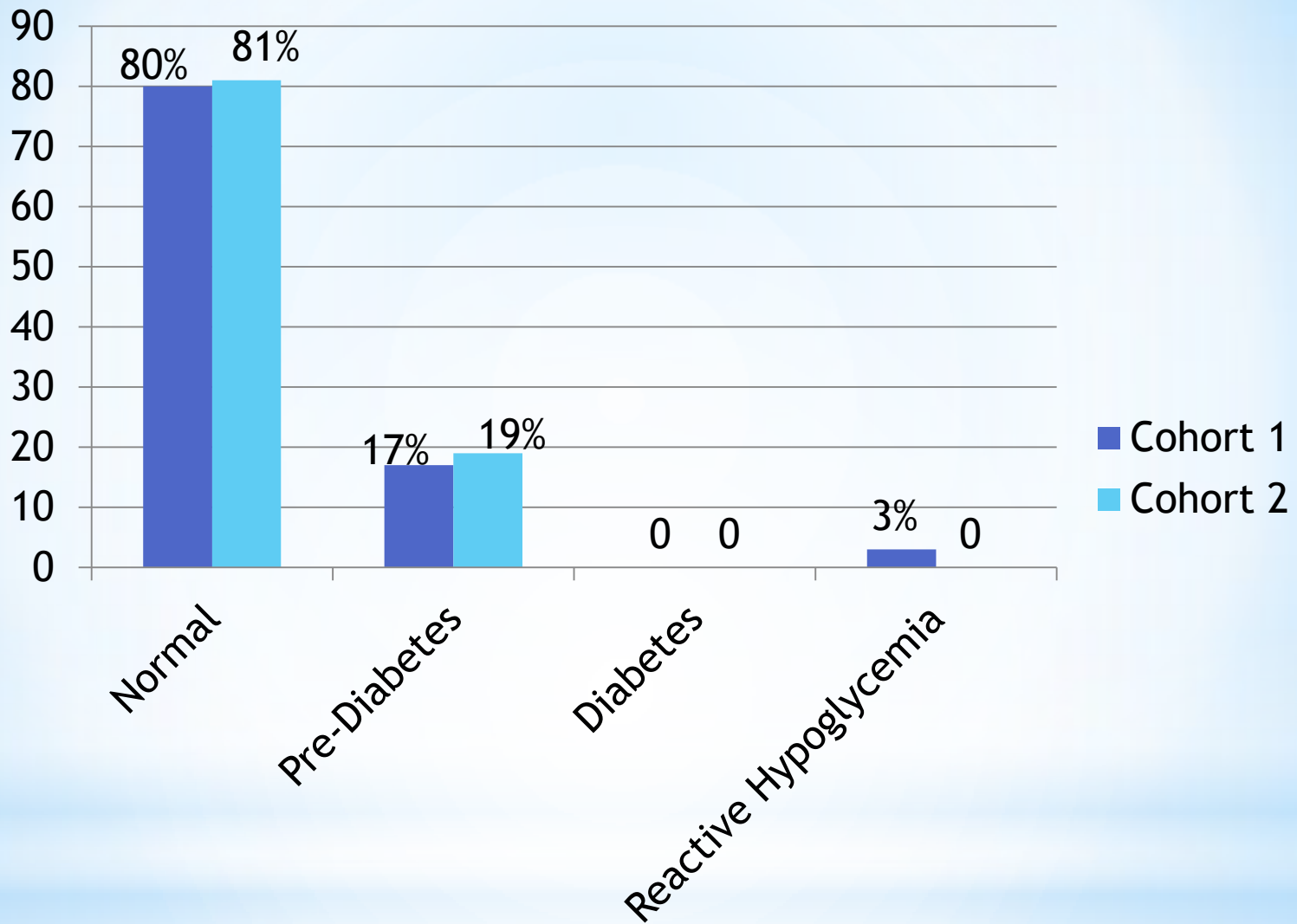
\* **Postpartum OGTT**



81% completion rate with implementation of a 3 month postpartum follow-up visit

\* Postpartum OGTT completion





\* Postpartum Diagnosis

# \* Still to come...

- \* Further data to be analyzed
  - \* Comparison of weight gain before and after intervention
    - \* Mean weight gain is 79% less after counselling compared to pre counselling.
- \* Covariate analysis to determine any significant associations
  - \* No significant association between weight gain and need for insulin

\* Thank you

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## \* References