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Gillin/Liss Award

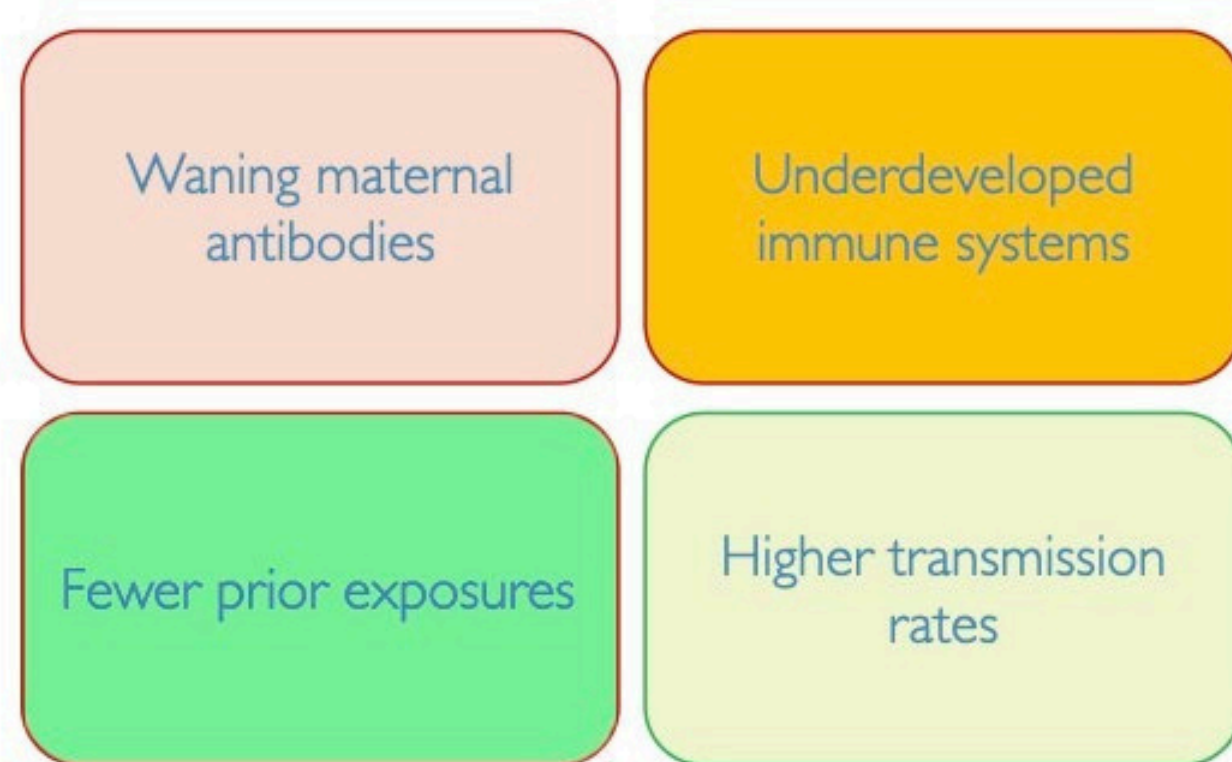


EMORY UNIVERSITY

Investigating pediatric flu: Initial immune exposure and its impact on future susceptibility

Each year, the flu causes significant disease burden on kids in the United States. This research aims to investigate the impact of early childhood flu exposure histories on future susceptibility to flu disease and their implications for population-level prevention strategies.

The complexity of understanding initial exposures to the flu



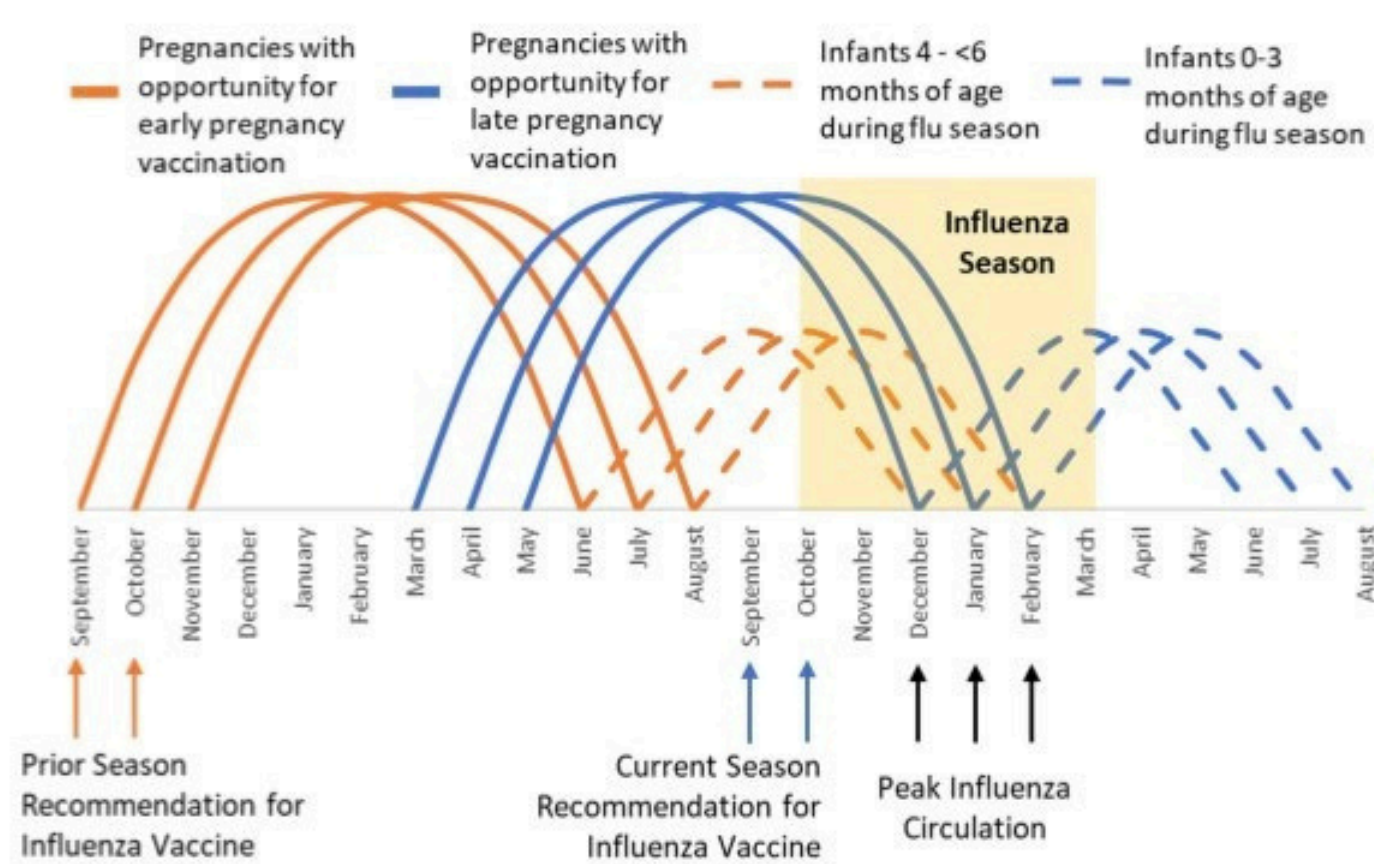
About 2 weeks after vaccination, the mother develops antibodies to influenza and whooping cough.

Antibodies enter the placenta and transfer to the baby.

The baby is born with antibodies that provide protection against influenza and whooping cough for the first few months of life.

Abu Raya B, Edwards KM, Scheifele DW, Halperin SA. Pertussis and influenza immunisation during pregnancy: a landscape review. Lancet Infect Dis. 2017 Jul;17(7):e209-e222. doi: 10.1016/S1473-3099(17)30190-1. Epub 2017 Apr 19. PMID: 28433704.

Figure. Seasonal influenza enrollment scenarios for infants <6 months of age in the context of maternal vaccination during pregnancy



Objective: To characterize children's birth season relative to influenza risk and then compare susceptibility to influenza infection and influenza vaccine effectiveness (VE)



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Scholar Awards Celebration
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