

# Pre-Eclampsia: Factors Conferring Risk and Protection in Minority Women with Dysglycemia



Reducing health disparities  
by preventing or delaying  
diabetes in American Indians  
and Alaskan Natives.

This study builds upon knowledge and experience from prior research suggesting that the prevalence of pre-eclampsia among diabetic American Indian women (specifically Oklahoma Chickasaw and Choctaw) is low. Furthermore, we have also found a low prevalence of pre-eclampsia among Type 2 diabetic Hispanic women participants. Taken together, these observations support the intriguing hypothesis that type 2 diabetic women of American Indian ancestry (whether from North or Central America) are relatively protected from hypertensive complications associated with pre-eclampsia during a diabetic pregnancy. Risk and susceptibility for pre-eclampsia may be reduced through cultural and/or environmental factors (e.g., nutrition), altered levels of pro- and/or anti-angiogenic factors (that is, factors that impact blood vessel formation), and/or metabolic and genetic factors.

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*Pre-eclampsia is a condition that occurs during pregnancy and is often characterized by an increase in blood pressure that can cause seizures, strokes, and organ failure. Pre-eclampsia may result in the death of the mother and/or baby.*



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