Survey on Pregnancy Perceptions Reveals Significant Access, Care and Information Deficiencies in Europe.

Over 94% of women did not experience a trouble-free pregnancy.

The survey shows that across Europe there is still much work to be done to improve maternal care and the pregnancy experience for women. Only 5.6% of the women in the survey sample answered positively for all the applicable questions/parameters.

94.4%

Access to information remains a problem

About 1 in 4 women sampled across Europe answered that they do not feel that they had the appropriate information and support immediately before and after giving birth.

Family planning is not a frequent topic of discussion with doctors

57% of the women in the survey responded that family planning had not been discussed with their doctor. This was even more pronounced among younger women.

Giving vulnerable women a voice

Although every effort was made to make the sample as representative as possible, the sample collection methodology means that some vulnerable groups of women may not have been included in the sample. However, the fact that the vast majority of women surveyed did not perceive to have a completely issue-pregnancy experience would suggest that the situation would be worse for these vulnerable groups, such as undocumented migrants.

* Examples of these parameters include perceived barriers to doctors or midwives, perceived impact on relationships (personal and professional), perceived discrimination in the workplace, and perceived appropriate access to information*

*The survey was distributed via online panels to a representative sample of women in each country. The respondents completed a qualifying question designed to filter for women between the ages of 18 and 45, and who were at a particular stage of life (either currently planning a family, currently pregnant, had had a baby within the last 6 months or who have children). In total, 3270 women completed the survey.

Source: "Survey to Understand the Perception of Pregnancy Among Women from a Selection of 7 Countries in Europe”. http://SafeMotherhoodWeekSurvey.org

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