It is illegal to post this copyrighted PDF on any website. Reanalysis of Efficacy of Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Antepartum Depression Versus Parenting Education Program: Initial Severity of Depression as a Predictor of Treatment Outcome

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Interpersonal psychotherapy (IPT) is supported by substantial empirical evidence as a treatment for depression. Surprisingly, our recently reported randomized, single-blind, controlled clinical trial found no significant difference between interpersonal psychotherapy for antepartum depression (IPT-P) and a parenting education program (PEP) control condition for the treatment of prenatal depression. Because depression severity has been found to influence treatment response in antidepressant treatment trials, the current study reassessed IPT-P outcomes, limiting analyses to women with moderate depressive symptoms.

Method: For this reanalysis, 75 of the 110 study participants who met *DSM-IV* criteria for major depressive disorder and scored \geq 16 on the 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS-17) from 2005 through 2011 were classified as moderately depressed. Linear mixed models were used to examine the longitudinal treatment response on the HDRS-17, the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS), and the Clinical Global Impressions Improvement (CGI-I) and Severity (CGI-S) scales.

Results: Although the longitudinal analysis did not reveal a significant interaction of treatment group and visit (ie, treatment response variation), the IPT-P group had significantly lower HDRS-17 and EPDS depression ratings than the PEP group at week 8 (respectively, P = .008 and P = .046); these scores remained low but lost significance versus those for the PEP group at week 12 due to attrition and smaller sample size. For the CGI ratings, the longitudinal analysis revealed significant interaction of treatment groups and visits for the CGI-I (P = .021) and CGI-S (P = .005) ratings. Post hoc analysis showed significant illness improvement and less illness severity for the IPT-P group as measured by the CGI ratings at weeks 8 (P = .007 and P = .003, respectively) and 12 (P = .003 and P = .012, respectively), whereas the PEP group remained relatively unchanged during the study.

Conclusions: The results of this reanalysis indicate that among women with moderate levels of depression severity, IPT-P is markedly more effective than PEP. The significance of baseline severity level in depression is important in treatment trial outcomes and considerably more important in determining treatment decisions for pregnant depressed women.

Trial Registration: ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00251043

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I e recently reported¹ results of a 3-site, randomized, single-blind, controlled, parallel-design, bilingual (Spanish and English) clinical treatment trial from 2005 to 2011 to examine the comparative effectiveness of interpersonal psychotherapy (IPT) for antepartum depression (IPT-P) versus a parenting education program (PEP) control condition during 12 weeks in 102 pregnant depressed women who met DSM-IV criteria for major depressive disorder (MDD) and had a 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS-17) score \geq 12. The sample was represented by equivalent numbers of Hispanic, African American, and white women. Blinded independent evaluators performed assessments. Although we hypothesized that IPT-P would be more effective than PEP for antepartum depression,¹ the results demonstrated that both IPT-P and the PEP control were equally effective for treating mild depression.

In the spirit of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Collaborative Study,² we have reanalyzed the data using a higher baseline severity score (≥ 16) on the HDRS-17. The NIMH Collaborative Study investigated the effectiveness of IPT, cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), imipramine plus clinical management, and placebo plus clinical management in the treatment of MDD. Similar to our initial primary analysis, their analysis of their total samples without regard to initial severity of illness demonstrated equal effectiveness of IPT and CBT that was not significantly less than that of imipramine.^{3,4} However, secondary analysis in which patients were dichotomized on initial level of severity of depressive symptoms demonstrated that imipramine was more effective than IPT or CBT in severe depression and that psychotherapy was effective for mild-to-moderate depression. Significant differences among treatments were found for the subgroup of patients who were more severely depressed.

Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) often demonstrate a large placebo response resulting in a relatively small effect size between placebo and drug in patients suffering from MDD.⁵ The failure to detect treatment effects of antidepressant treatments in placebo-controlled trials has increased over time,⁶ with a mean placebo response rate increase of 7% per decade over the past 30 years.⁷ Several authors have tried to identify factors and patient characteristics as predictors for increasing signal detection in clinical trials. Fournier et al⁸ found that the magnitude of response of antidepressant medication compared to placebo increases with the severity of symptoms at baseline.

Data on effect sizes are primarily based on antidepressant trials, but concerns about reduced signal detection also apply

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quality psychotherapy studies are difficult to make. IPT trials have limitations that make meta-analytic comparisons difficult. Methodologies vary from open trials, waiting list controls, and treatment as usual in individual, couple, and group interventions. Manualization of treatments, lack of diagnostic criteria, method of assessment, and the use of independent evaluators further affect effect sizes. The effects of psychotherapy are frequently significant, but tend to be small.^{9,10}

The number of psychotherapy trials for perinatal depression is too few to compare effect sizes, although Claridge¹¹ found positive average effect sizes in psychotherapy treatments that addressed perinatal depression when treatments were compared with control groups. Effect sizes tend to be larger among individual IPT studies and clinical samples.

In the first study to provide evidence-based guidelines for interpreting HDRS-17 scores both cross-sectionally for severity and longitudinally for change in severity, Furukawa et al¹² found that scores between 8 and 15 signify "mildly ill" and those between 16 and 26 represent "moderately ill" patients. With these guidelines in mind, we explored the possibility that the PEP, a didactic control condition of individual therapist-led 45-minute weekly educational sessions¹³ was just as effective as IPT-P in the primary analysis because depressive symptoms were mild and close to the cutoff score for admission. We hypothesized that baseline disease severity of patients was the most important factor for the finding that PEP and IPT-P were of equal benefit. We postulated that IPT-P would be more efficacious than PEP in women with HDRS-17 baseline scores≥16, representing moderate depression.¹²

We also considered the possibility that somatic symptoms artificially increased HDRS scores. Pereira et al¹⁴ demonstrated that pregnant women experience significant somatic changes even if not clinically depressed. Subjects with milder depression may have had elevated HDRS scores because of the difficulty in distinguishing the normal physiologic discomforts that characterize the gestational period from the somatic symptoms associated with a depressive episode, and consequently met the baseline HDRS-17 cutoff score for inclusion.

While the literature on failure to detect large effect sizes has focused on medication trials, we are extrapolating these findings for the purposes of our psychotherapy study trial design to determine the potential impact of baseline depression severity on outcome. We have reanalyzed the data using an initial HDRS-17 score \geq 16 as an inclusion criterion. Because trial designs have significant impacts on outcome, we hypothesized that IPT-P would be more effective than PEP in women who had more severe depression at entry.

METHOD

Study Design

More than 479 prospective research participants were referred to the Maternal Mental Health Program at the

- The decision to treat depression during pregnancy involves a risk/benefit analysis and tends to be a difficult one for the clinician and the patient.
- The gravity of depression symptoms is a good indicator for the decision to use a non-pharmacologic method of treatment such as psychotherapy rather than antidepressant medication. Current guidelines from the American Psychiatric Association and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommend the use of psychotherapy for mild-to-moderate depression in pregnancy.
- Interpersonal psychotherapy demonstrates efficacy for the treatment of mild-to-moderate depressive symptoms in the antepartum period.

New York State Psychiatric Institute from the obstetrics departments of 3 metropolitan hospitals in New York City, each representing various racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups.¹

Women who met *DSM-IV* criteria for a major depressive episode using the Structured Clinical Interview for *DSM-IV*, Research Version, Patient Edition (SCID-I/P),¹⁵ and had a minimum score of 12 on the HDRS-17¹⁶ were invited into the treatment phase of the study (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00251043). One hundred forty-two women met initial study criteria. Seventy-five met the criterion for moderate depression (HDRS-17 score \geq 16) and were included in this reanalysis. A more comprehensive discussion of study design and therapist training has been previously published.¹

Prior to randomization, patients received a complete psychiatric evaluation and were assessed with the SCID-I/P, the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS),¹⁷ the HDRS-17, and the Clinical Global Impressions scale (CGI).¹⁸ Randomization was stratified by site, ethnicity, and trimester of pregnancy using a block size of 4. Blinded independent raters administered the HDRS-17, EPDS, and CGI at baseline (in person) and weeks 4, 8, and 12 (in person or by telephone). English- and Spanish-speaking women between 12 and 33 weeks' gestation and 18–45 years of age were included in the study. All subjects signed informed consent in English or Spanish. The Institutional Review Boards at each institution approved the study.

Statistical Analyses

The subjects of this reanalysis are the individuals from each treatment group (IPT-P and PEP) whose baseline HDRS-17 ratings were \geq 16. The demographic measures were examined across the 2 treatment groups using the *t* test statistic for the continuous measures and the χ^2 statistic and the Fisher exact test for the categorical measures. To examine the longitudinal treatment response data (HDRS-17, EPDS, and CGI Severity [CGI-S] and Improvement [CGI-I] ratings), we used linear mixed models (LMM) procedures available in IBM SPSS Statistics (Release 21). For each LMM procedure, the independent variable was treatment group membership, and age, race, education level, and income were included as covariates. The primary outcome was score on

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Spinelli et al **It is illegal to post this copyrighted PDF on any website** the HDRS-17. The main focus of these analyses was the Table 1. Demographic Measures of the Participants in the

interaction term of treatment group and time, which would indicate treatment group differences over the course of treatment. A 2-tailed α of .05 was used for each statistical test.

RESULTS

Sample

In the original report, which included 110 cases (IPT-P N=63 and PEP N=47), all statistical effects indicative of treatment group-by-visit differences, for each of the outcome measures, were nonsignificant. For the current reexamination, we selected the individuals from each group who presented with baseline HDRS-17 item ratings \geq 16 (IPT-P, N=46; PEP, N=29) as obtained by independent evaluators.

Demographics and other participant characteristics are presented and compared across the treatment groups in Table 1. There were no significant treatment group differences in age or gestation. Education level, race, marital and immigration status, and income were well dispersed within and across the 2 treatment groups, showing no significant distribution differences. There was a trend for differences between the 2 treatment groups for previous pregnancies and previous depression: the PEP cases exhibited more previous episodes of depression (Fisher exact test P=.049) and a trend for more previous pregnancies ($\chi^2 P$ =.058).

General Linear Mixed Models Analyses and Post Hoc Univariate Analyses of Covariance

For the HDRS-17 total score, there was a significant group effect ($F_{1,157} = 7.47$, P = .007) as well as a significant across-visits effect ($F_{3,91} = 120.72$, P < .001). Although the interaction term for group by visit was not significant ($F_{3,91} = 1.42$, P = .243), it is clear from Figure 1 that the IPT-P group appears to have lower HDRS-17 depression ratings at weeks 8 and 12 than the PEP group. Post hoc univariate analyses of covariance at weeks 8 and 12 revealed significantly lower depression levels for the IPT-P group at week 8 ($F_{1,54} = 7.47$, P = .008), but not at week 12 ($F_{1,39} = 2.47$, P = .124).

The results for the EPDS (see Figure 2) were similar. There was a significant group effect ($F_{1,172}$ = 7.58, P = .007) as well as a significant across-visits effect ($F_{3,83}$ = 59.00, P < .001); however, the interaction term for group by visit was not significant ($F_{3,83}$ = 0.29, P = .835). Post hoc analyses showed that the IPT-P group exhibited significantly lower EPDS scores at baseline ($F_{1,69}$ = 5.93, P = .018) and at week 8 ($F_{1,49}$ = 4.19, P = .046), but not at weeks 4 and 12.

CGI-I ratings were obtained at weeks 4, 8, and 12 (Figure 3). The generalized LMM (GLMM) revealed a significant group effect ($F_{1,132}$ =11.41, P=.001), a significant across-visits effect ($F_{2,84}$ =3.11, P=.050), and a significant group-by-visit interaction ($F_{2,84}$ =4.03,

Table 1. Demographic Measures of the Participants in the Depression During Pregnancy Study Who Presented With Baseline HDRS-17 Scores $\geq 16^{a}$

	IPT-P Treated (N=46)		PEP Treated (N = 29)		Gro	up Ef	Effect
Demographic Measures	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	t	df	Р
Age, y	30.9	6.6	29.7	6.6	0.78	73	.440
Gestation, wk	21.8	6.2	23.1	7.0	0.85	72	.400
Baseline HDRS-17 score	19.2	2.7	20.3	3.4	1.46	73	.148
Categorical Measures	%	n	%	n	X ²	df	Р
Education level					3.43	4	.480
Less than high school	20	9	24	7			
High school/GED	13	6	14	4			
Some college	22	10	35	10			
BA/BS degree	26	12	21	6			
Graduate school	20	9	7	2			
Race/ethnicity					2.39	2	.303
Hispanic	28	13	45	13			
Black	30	14	28	8			
White	41	19	28	8			
Marital status					0.26	1	.608
Married or common law	54	25	48	14			
Single/divorced/separated	46	21	52	15			
Income, US \$					3.01	4	.557
< 15,000	24	11	21	6			
15,000–24,999	7	3	17	5			
25,000-39,999	24	11	28	8			
40,000-59,999	9	4	3	1			
≥60,000	37	17	31	9			
Immigration status					0.42	1	.515
US born	65	30	72	21			
Immigrant	35	16	28	8			
No. of previous pregnancies					5.71	2	.058
0	39	18	14	4			
1 or 2	46	21	69	20			
≥3	15	7	17	5			
Previous episodes of					5.29	1	.071
depression*							
No	96	44	79	23			
Yes	4	2	21	6			

 ${}^{a}\text{Test}$ statistics are the t test for continuous measures and the χ^2 test for categorical measures.

*Fisher exact test P = .049.

Abbreviations: GED = General Educational Development, HDRS-17 = 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale, IPT-P = interpersonal psychotherapy for antepartum depression, PEP = parenting education program.

P=.021). It seems apparent from Figure 3 that the IPT-P group shows a clear improvement trajectory while the PEP group remains unchanged. Post hoc analyses showed significant differences between the 2 treatment groups at week 8 ($F_{1,50}$ =7.87, P=.007) and week 12 ($F_{1,39}$ =10.15, P=.003) and no difference at week 4. For the CGI-S ratings (Figure 4), the GLMM analysis revealed a significant group effect ($F_{1,150}$ =13.26, P<.001), a significant across-visits effect ($F_{3,93}$ =25.74, P<.001), and a significant group-by-visit interaction ($F_{3,94}$ =4.63, P=.005). The post hoc analyses revealed significantly lower CGI-S scores for the IPT-P group at weeks 8 ($F_{1,50}$ =9.44, P=.003) and 12 ($F_{1,39}$ =7.01, P=.012), with no differences at baseline and week 4. The PEP group CGI-S score remained above 3.00 throughout the course of treatment, showing minimal decline in severity of illness.

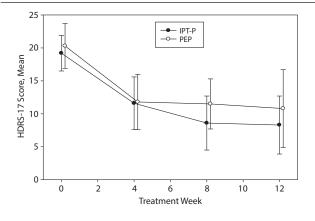
DISCUSSION

In recent years, discussion has focused on the design features of current MDD studies that might artificially inflate placebo

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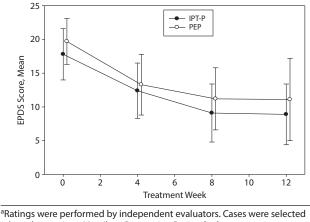
Figure 1. Comparison of 17-Item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS-17) Scores of Pregnant Women During Treatment With Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Antepartum Depression (IPT-P) or Parenting Education Program (PEP) at Baseline and Weeks 4, 8, and 12 of Treatment^{a,b}



^aRatings were performed by independent evaluators. Cases were selected based on HDRS-17 score \geq 16 at baseline.

^bError bars indicate standard deviation (SD)

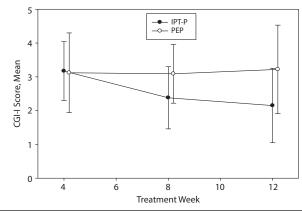
Figure 2. Comparison of Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) Scores of Pregnant Women During Treatment With Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Antepartum Depression (IPT-P) or Parenting Education Program (PEP) at Baseline and Weeks 4, 8, and 12 of Treatment^{a,b}



based on 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale score ≥ 16 at baseline. ^bError bars indicate standard deviation (SD).

responses. Methodological factors such as patient selection contribute to the increasing rates of failed antidepressant trials.³ Our initial patient sample in our psychotherapy study included women with a wide range of baseline depression severity, including mild depression. In this follow-up second analysis, we dichotomized the patient sample according to severity criteria. In contrast to the less severely depressed subgroup, there was evidence of IPT-P efficacy for moderate depression. This finding supports the influential role that severity of depression plays in clinical trial outcomes as well as the clinical discussions and decisions about treatment options during pregnancy. Figure 3. Comparison of Clinical Global Impressions-Improvement Scale (CGI-I) Scores of Pregnant Women During Treatment With Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Antepartum Depression (IPT-P) or Parenting Education Program (PEP) at Weeks 4, 8, and 12 of Treatment^{a,b}

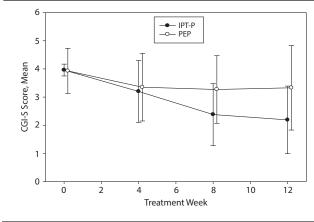
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^aRatings were performed by independent evaluators. Cases were selected based on 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale score ≥ 16 at baseline.

^bError bars indicate standard deviation (SD).

Figure 4. Comparison of Clinical Global Impressions-Severity (CGI-S) Scores of Pregnant Women During Treatment With Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Antepartum Depression (IPT-P) or Parenting Education Program (PEP) at Baseline and Weeks 4, 8, and 12 of Treatment^{a,b}



^aRatings were performed by independent evaluators. Cases were selected based on 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale score ≥ 16 at baseline.
^bError bars indicate standard deviation (SD).

There were significant group differences across the clinical treatment trial. The IPT-P group had lower mean HDRS-17 and EPDS ratings than the PEP group at weeks 8 and 12. Post hoc analysis demonstrated that IPT-P was significantly more effective than PEP at week 8 (effect size = 0.74), but lost significance at week 12 (effect size = 0.50) possibly due to a smaller effect size and/or attrition/smaller sample size. The attrition rates for the IPT-P group from weeks 0–4, 5–8, and 9–12 were respectively 8.7%, 10.9%, and 21.7%, while attrition rates for the PEP group were respectively 0%, 20.7%, and 21.7%. In the weeks 8–12, the IPT-P group lost twice the number of subjects compared to weeks 0–4 and 4–8 (Table 2).

Spinelli et al It is illegal to post this copyrighted PDF on any website. Table 2. Visit-to-Visit Attrition Bates From Baseline

	IPT-P (baseline N = 46)	PEP (baseline $N = 29$)
Week of Visit	n (attrition %ª)	n (attrition % ^a)
0–4	42 (8.7)	29 (0)
5–8	37 (10.9)	23 (20.7)
9–12	27 (21.7)	18 (17.2)
	Attrition, n (% ^a)	Attrition, n (% ^a)
Total	19 (41.3)	11 (37.9)
Abbreviations: IPT	determined using the baseline N -P = interpersonal psychotherap	y for antepartum

In contrast to our initial analysis, this reanalysis determined that the IPT-P group had significantly greater global improvement in illness throughout the study and at the week 12 endpoint compared to the PEP group. The PEP control group failed to demonstrate any improvement over the course of the study. For the CGI-S ratings, the IPT-P group had significantly less severe illness over the course of treatment and week 12 while the PEP group showed almost no decline in illness severity.

The global quality of the CGI may explain the significant differences between groups, which, unlike differences on the HDRS-17 and the EPDS, were sustained through the end of treatment week 12. While the HDRS-17 and EPDS measure the presence and severity of discrete illness variables, eg, depression, global ratings of illness provide valuable information about the overall clinical picture of each subject when assessing the efficacy of a treatment by providing more comprehensive information about patients' clinical status.¹⁹ Unlike scores on the HDRS-17 and the EPDS, the CGI-S and CGI-I ratings are not merely a composite of symptom ratings of depression; rather, they incorporate core symptomatology of the disorder. The CGI indicates discomfort, distress, and impairment¹⁹ and reflects cues from the patient regarding sense of well-being and functional capacity. The CGI is considered by many to be the gold standard for designating responder status. These findings replicate the initial pilot controlled trial that demonstrated the efficacy of IPT-P compared to PEP for antepartum depression.¹³

Severity scores have important treatment and research implications since mild depression requires a less intensive treatment such as a support group, while moderate and severe depression may require psychotherapy, medication, or both.²⁰ These treatment decisions are particularly critical during pregnancy to determine the most effective treatment with the least number of adverse effects for mother and fetus.

The high number of patients with mild depression included in clinical trials can drag down the overall effect size of the study and call into question the influence of depression severity at baseline; this depression severity may be due to methodological artifacts of randomized controlled trials, rater bias at the time of study entry, or artificially elevated scores in the case of pregnancy.

Mancini et al⁵ found a decrease in signal detection with patients who had baseline HDRS scores that were closest to the cutoff scores for enrollment. In our original analysis, we chose a baseline cutoff score of HDRS-17 \geq 12 based on

the current treatment guidelines for perinatal depression, which recommend psychotherapy for mild-to-moderate depression.²¹ We chose the PEP control group in lieu of a waiting list control to determine the specific effects of IPT-P. In the initial analysis, psychoeducation about pregnancy, fetal growth, and delivery provided a select treatment effect for pregnant women with mild depression. Other educational models have established benefit for treatment²² and prevention²³ of perinatal depression. In addition, the quality of the therapeutic relationship accounts for about 30% of the variance in outcome.²⁴ These factors very likely enriched the therapeutic effect of PEP, further contributing to loss of significance in our original analysis.

In addition to the strength of the control condition, other factors may account for the strong placebo response. Mundt et al²⁵ opined that inclusion of participants with mild depression might be due to the tendency to unconsciously inflate baseline scores to facilitate enrollment. Such enthusiasm and unconscious bias allow for a preponderance of baseline cutoff scores.

Another factor that could affect depression scores is artificial inflation due to endorsement of somatic symptoms of pregnancy, which inflate HDRS scores enough to meet criteria for entry into the study. The EPDS does not have a somatic component. Both EPDS and HDRS-17 have excellent diagnostic validity and similar sensitivities and specificities and are highly predictive of MDD when used in the pregnant or postpartum populations.^{26,27} Since there are no observer-rated scales that do not include somatic symptoms, the HDRS-17 is an important complement to self-report measures such as the EPDS. The question of whether somatic symptoms are valid indicators of depression in pregnant women suggests exclusion when assessing pregnant women for depression.²⁸ On the other hand, some contend that the alternative may lead to a loss of vital information.²⁹ Ji et al²⁷ suggested that the presence of these factors did not elevate their scores and that women tend to incorporate their own opinions about the etiology of symptoms. In contrast, Ross et al³⁰ demonstrated that specific somatic items on the HDRS do interfere with the scale's potential for measuring prenatal depression, suggesting that rating scales with somatic symptoms should be used with caution when assessing antepartum depression. To offset this problem in the HDRS-17, we asked subjects whether a particular symptom was attributed to pregnancy (not scored) or to depression (endorse symptom). In addition, post hoc analysis revealed no differences between HDRS scores between groups when somatic symptoms were excluded.

A limitation of our study is the use of certified social workers for both IPT-P and PEP due to the limited numbers of bilingual practitioners available; however, our videotape reviews support adherence to the protocol.

CONCLUSION

The central influence of our study lies in the designation of treatment guidelines for depression in pregnancy. Our It is illegal to post this copyrighted PDF on any website. reanalysis replicates our initial randomized clinical trial ran of IPT-P efficacy for antenatal depression and endorses treatment guidelines of the American Psychiatric Association and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists²¹ that recommend IPT-P for mildto-moderate depression during pregnancy. Since many women prefer to avoid fetal antidepressant exposure during pregnancy, our findings are critical and emphasize the identification of baseline depression severity evaluation by the clinician to provide informed consent and make appropriate recommendations for treatment. In summary, we have replicated the efficacy of IPT-P for moderate depression during pregnancy and confirm the recommendation for use in antepartum depression.

severity of illness is a variable that has a significant influence on treatment outcome. Baseline level of depression is a differential predictor of response at termination of treatment^{3,31} and a likely cause of large placebo effects in both medication and psychotherapy trials. The efficacy of either treatment, compared with placebo, often increases with the severity of depressive symptoms, being more substantial in patients with more severe depression. We suggest that restricting primary analysis of clinical trials to a population with a higher cutoff score representing moderate depression will lead to better signal detection of psychotherapy efficacy. Rating scales that include somatic symptoms should be used with caution when assessing antepartum depression.

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Drug names: imipramine (Tofranil and others). Potential conflicts of interest: Dr Spinelli has received research support from NIMH and has been a consultant for Pfizer and Forest. Dr Endicott has received research support from Cyberonics, has served as a speaker or a member of the advisory board for AstraZeneca, Bayer, Amgen, and Pfizer; and is a stock shareholder for Cyberonics. Drs Goetz and Segre report no conflicts of interest.

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Editor's Note: We encourage authors to submit papers for consideration as a part of our Focus on Women's Mental Health section. Please contact Marlene P. Freeman, MD, at mfreeman@psychiatrist.com.