

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE DURING COVID-19 IN DURHAM COUNTY

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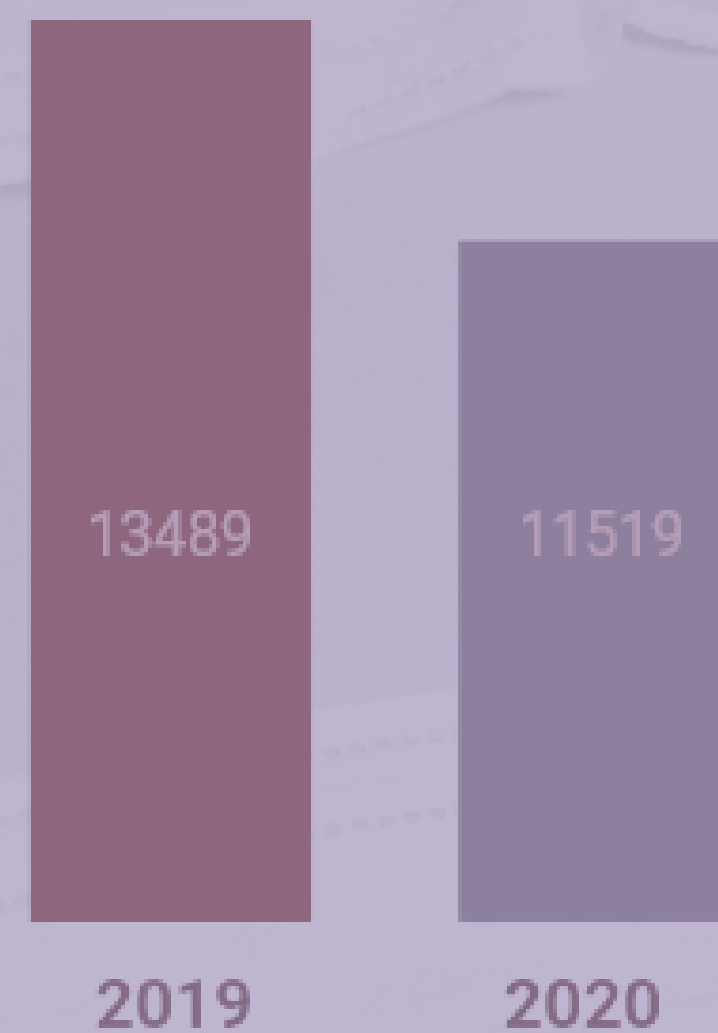
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project's objectives are multifold and stem from the damaging effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on women's health and quality of life. This project aims to 1. identify barriers and facilitators of access to high-quality, affordable reproductive healthcare in Durham County. 2. Investigate how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted reproductive healthcare at the Durham County Health Department (DCHD). 3. Create evidence-based, comprehensive infographic with pertinent women's health information to give patients at the Health Department during the pandemic.

BACKGROUND & SIGNIFICANCE

The pandemic has led to significant loss — of lives, jobs, housing, access to healthcare, and more. At the Durham County Health Department, because of these factors and exacerbation of existing barriers in reproductive healthcare practitioners there have seen approximately 2000 fewer clinic visits during the pandemic as compared to before March 2020. This decline aligns with results found from the CDC that routine breast and cervical cancer screenings decreased significantly as a result of COVID-19. High-quality and accessible reproductive healthcare and education empowers women to reach their full potential.

DCHD's Women's Health Visits



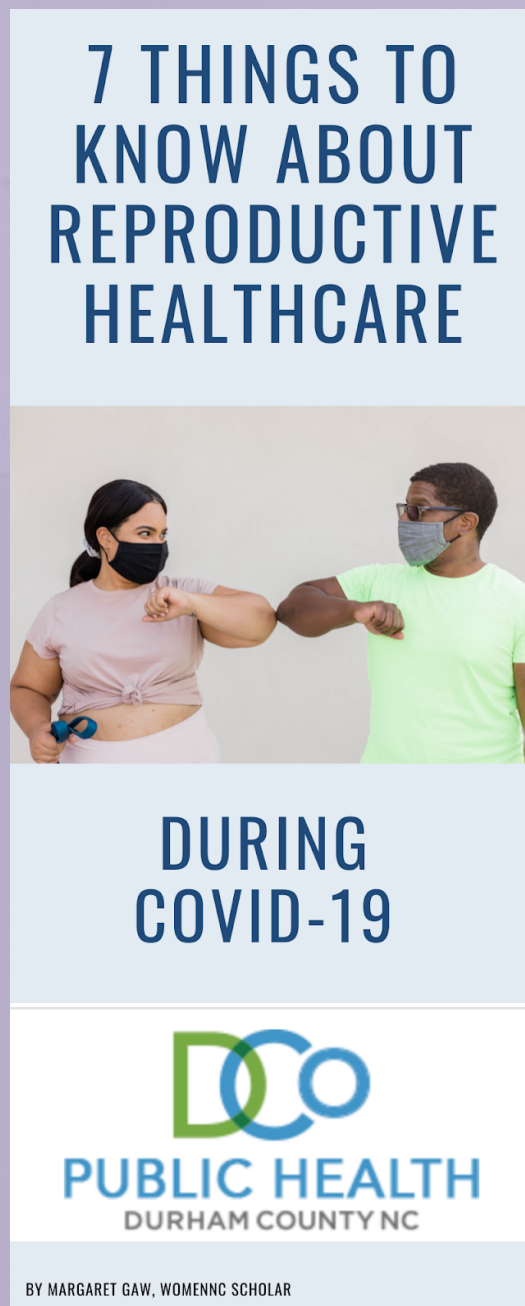
In April 2020, the total number of cancer screening tests through CDC's National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (Early Detection Program)

- declined by 87% for breast cancer
- declined by 84% for cervical cancer

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Collaborate with advocacy partners at DCHD to address gaps resulting from the pandemic by equipping patients with information of DCHD's reproductive health care.

Create comprehensive infographic/brochure.



The brochure outlines how to access:

- 1.Reproductive health services;
- 2.Transportation to the clinic;
- 3.Important information for women to know about COVID-19,including how to access vaccinations, and the protocols around vaccinations while pregnant or breastfeeding.

RESEARCH METHODS

Review of existing literature and secondary data from the CDC and Durham County Health Department.



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

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