New Publication!

HOW DO NEW PARENTS SEXUAL CONCERNS CHANGE OVER TIME AND WHAT ROLE DO DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS PLAY?

New publication:

THE JOURNAL OF

SEXUAL MEDICINE

COUPLES

A New Baby in the Bedroom: Frequency and Severity of Postpartum Sexual Concerns and Their Associations With Relationship Satisfaction in New Parent Couples



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We asked two main questions:



(1) How do postpartum sexual concerns and depressive symptoms change over time?
(2) To what extent do depressive symptoms predict initial levels of postpartum sexual concerns and change in sexual concerns over time?

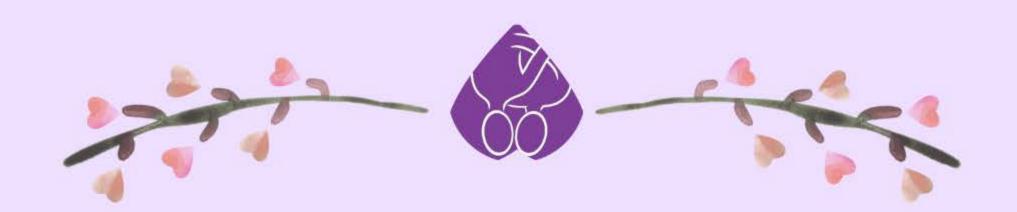


What did we find?



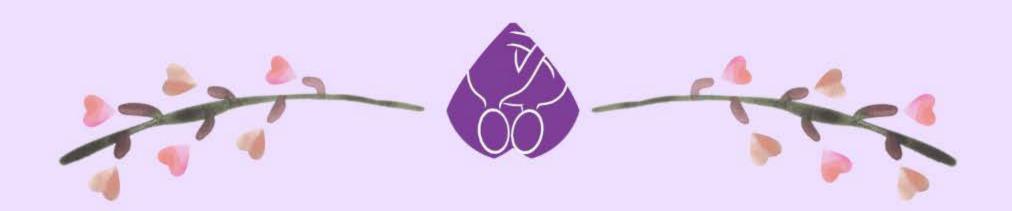
Mothers **and** partners **declined** their levels of sexual concern between 3 and 12 months postpartum

What did we find?



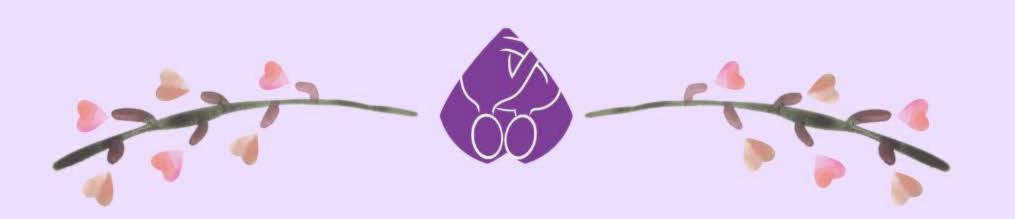
Contrary to what we expected,
Mothers did not decline in their
levels of depressive symptoms
between 3 and 12 months
postpartum. Also, partners
increased in their depressive
symptoms over time.





When mothers' or partners' had higher initial levels of depressive symptoms at 3 months postpartum, partners were more likely to have higher initial levels of sexual concern at 3 months postpartum





Our data provide evidence that: parents can expect sexual concern levels to decline postpartum

and

depressive symptoms are a risk factor for postpartum sexual concerns



This is a summary of our published article:

Dawson, S. J., Strickland, N. J., & Rosen, N. O. (2020).
Longitudinal associations between depressive symptoms and sexual concerns among first-time parent couples during the transition to parenthood. The Journal of Sex Research. https://doi.org/10.1080/002244 99.2020.1836114.



