

1 *This is a post-peer-review, pre-copyedit version of an article published in the Archives of*  
2 *Women's Mental Health. The final authenticated version is available online at:*  
3 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00737-021-01149-w>  
4

5

6 **Title:** A cross-sectional study of the relationship between *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* variations and  
7 depression symptoms, for women taking SSRIs during pregnancy  
8

8

9 **Authors and Affiliations:** Catriona Hippman<sup>1</sup>, Caitlin Slomp<sup>1</sup>, Emily Morris<sup>1</sup>, Rolan

10 Batallones<sup>1</sup>, Angela Inglis<sup>1</sup>, Prescilla Carrion<sup>1</sup>, Ursula Brain<sup>1</sup>, Michelle Higginson<sup>1</sup>, Galen E. B.

11 Wright<sup>3</sup>, Lynda G. Balneaves<sup>3</sup>, Deirdre Ryan<sup>1</sup>, Corey Nislow<sup>1</sup>, Colin J. D. Ross<sup>1</sup>, Andrea

12 Gaedigk<sup>2</sup>, Tim F. Oberlander<sup>1</sup>, Jehannine Austin<sup>1</sup>  
13

13

14 (1) University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, BC, Canada

15 (2) Children's Mercy Kansas City and University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO,

16 U.S.A.

17 (3) University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada  
18

18

19

20 **Corresponding author:**

21 Jehannine Austin,

22 UBC Departments of Psychiatry and Medical Genetics

23 Rm A3-127, 3rd Floor-Translational Lab Building, 938 W28th Ave, Vancouver, BC., V5Z 4H4

24 Tel.: +1 604 875 2000 x5943

25 fax: +1 604 875 3871

26 e-mail: [jehannine.austin@ubc.ca](mailto:jehannine.austin@ubc.ca)

27 **Declarations:**

28 ***Funding:***

29 CH received salary support from a Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate  
30 Scholarship (CGS-D), a UBC Killam Doctoral Scholarship, and a UBC Four Year Fellowship  
31 Award. CJDR was supported by Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research scholar  
32 program. CN was supported by the Canada Research Chairs Program and Genome BC. JA was  
33 supported by the Canada Research Chairs Program, and BC Mental Health and Substance Use  
34 Services. TFO is the R. Howard Webster Professor, Brain Imaging and Child Development.  
35 Cohorts A (Austin PI) and O (Oberlander PI) were funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health  
36 Research (CIHR).

37 ***Conflicts of Interest/Competing Interests:***

38 No authors have any relevant conflicts of interest to declare.

39 ***Ethics approval:***

40 These studies were performed in line with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. Studies  
41 were approved by the UBC/Children's and Women's Hospital ethics boards (cohort A: H06–  
42 70145; cohort O1: H00-70500; cohort O2: H05-70629).

43 ***Consent to participate:***

44 Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the studies.

45 ***Consent for publication:***

46 Not applicable (no identifying information for any participant is included in the manuscript)

47 ***Availability of data and material:***

48 The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are available from the  
49 corresponding author on reasonable request.

50 *Authors' contributions:*

51

52 Manuscript writing: CH; revised for important intellectual contribution: JA; approved final

53 version: all

54 Research design: CH, JA, CN, LGB, DR

55 Data collection: CH, JA, CS, EM, RB, AI, PC, UB, DR, AG, CJDR, MH

56 Data analysis: CH, JA, GEBW, CN, CJDR, AG, TFO, UB, CS, EM, RB

57 **Acknowledgements:**

58         This work was conducted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of CH's doctoral  
59 degree. We thank Fudan Miao and members of AG's team for their support in genotyping these  
60 cohorts. We thank Dr. Arianne Albert for consulting on the statistical analysis. We thank all  
61 members of the Translational Psychiatric Genetics Group for their manifold support, insight,  
62 guidance, and commitment. We also extend our gratitude to all the volunteers who assisted with  
63 recruitment and data entry for these studies over the years. Finally, we would like to express our  
64 heartfelt appreciation for those who participated in these studies; without you, none of this would  
65 be possible.

66

67 **Title:** A cross-sectional study of the relationship between *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* variations and  
68 depression symptoms, for women taking SSRIs during pregnancy

69

70 Abstract

71 **Purpose:** Depression during pregnancy affects 10-15% of women, and 5% of women take  
72 antidepressants during pregnancy. Clinical guidelines provide recommendations for selective  
73 serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) drug choice and dose based on *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19*  
74 genotype; however, they are based on evidence from non-pregnant cohorts. This study aimed to  
75 test the hypothesis that women with function-altering variants (increased, decreased, or no  
76 function) in these pharmacogenes, taking SSRIs prenatally, would have more depression  
77 symptoms than women whose pharmacogenetic variants are associated with normal SSRI  
78 metabolism.

79 **Methods:** Comprehensive *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* genotyping using a range of methods,  
80 including gene copy number analysis, was performed as secondary analyses on two longitudinal  
81 cohorts of pregnant women ( $N=83$ ) taking the SSRIs paroxetine, citalopram, escitalopram, or  
82 sertraline. The Kruskal-Wallis test compared mean depression scores across four predicted  
83 metabolizer groups: poor ( $n=5$ ), intermediate ( $n=10$ ), normal ( $n=53$ ), and ultrarapid ( $n=15$ ).

84 **Results:** There were no significant differences between mean depression scores across the four  
85 metabolizer groups ( $H(3)=.73$ ,  $p=.87$ ,  $\eta^2=.029$ ,  $\epsilon^2=.0089$ ).

86 **Conclusions:** This is the first study of the relationship in pregnancy between *CYP2C19*  
87 pharmacogenetic variations and depression symptoms in the context of SSRI use. Findings from  
88 this initial study do not support the clinical use of pharmacogenetic testing for SSRI use during  
89 the second or third trimesters of pregnancy, but these findings should be confirmed in larger

90 cohorts. There is an urgent need for further research to clarify the utility of pharmacogenetic  
91 testing for pregnant women, especially as companies offering direct-to-consumer genetic testing  
92 expand their marketing efforts.

93

94 **Keywords:** Depression; Pregnancy; Pharmacogenetics; Treatment; SSRI

95

96

97

## 98 Introduction

99 Depression is common during the perinatal period, affecting 10-15% of women (O'Hara  
100 & Swain, 1996). Further, suicide is a leading cause of perinatal death (Knight et al., 2016;  
101 Lindahl et al., 2005). Untreated prenatal depression also negatively impacts maternal quality of  
102 life, and increases risk for preterm birth (Grigoriadis, VonderPorten, Mamisashvili, Tomlinson,  
103 et al., 2013). Antidepressants (e.g., selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)) effectively  
104 treat depression (Cohen et al., 2006), and are used by ~5% of pregnant women (Daw et al., 2012;  
105 Hanley & Mintzes, 2014). However, prenatal antidepressant use may have risks for both mother  
106 (e.g., postpartum hemorrhage (Hanley et al., 2016)) and baby (e.g., poor neonatal adaptation  
107 syndrome (Grigoriadis, VonderPorten, Mamisashvili, Eady, et al., 2013)). Thus, the decision  
108 regarding whether to take antidepressants during pregnancy is complex.

109 Part of the complexity of this decision-making process stems from the need for women to  
110 evaluate the consequences of treatment options not only for themselves, but also for their fetuses  
111 (Hippman & Balneaves, 2018). Frequently, women report feeling that they have to make a trade-  
112 off between their own health and their baby's health. When attempting to weigh these risks  
113 against potential benefits, more information about the likelihood that antidepressants will  
114 alleviate and/or prevent their symptoms at given doses would be particularly helpful.

115 Pharmacogenetic testing is a possible source of such insight.

116 There are clinical practice guidelines for pharmacogenetically-guided SSRI prescribing  
117 for the genes *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* (Dutch Pharmacogenetics Working Group (DPWG) of the  
118 Royal Dutch Pharmacists Association (KNMP), 2018; Hicks et al., 2015a). These highly  
119 polymorphic genes (Nofziger et al., 2020) produce enzymes of the same names, which are  
120 involved in the metabolism of many medications, including SSRIs. For the SSRI paroxetine, the

121 enzyme CYP2D6 is primarily responsible for metabolism (with CYP3A4 and CYP1A2 playing  
122 secondary roles), while for the SSRIs citalopram, escitalopram and sertraline, the enzyme  
123 CYP2C19 is primarily responsible for metabolism (with CYP2D6, CYP3A4, CYP2C9, and  
124 CYP2B6 playing secondary roles). Some variants in these genes may impair function – causing  
125 poor metabolism, and consequently, an increased risk of side effects and drug discontinuation.  
126 Other variants may cause rapid or ultrarapid metabolism, whereby a drug breaks down more  
127 quickly than normal metabolism, and – in the case of SSRIs – may leave inadequate levels for  
128 symptom control. There is some evidence that such function-altering variants associated with  
129 poor, rapid or ultrarapid metabolism can impact effective SSRI dose(Altar et al., 2013; Brandl et  
130 al., 2014; Tsai et al., 2010), with prescribing recommendations that take these variants into  
131 account articulated in the guidelines. However, these guidelines were based on research  
132 conducted in non-pregnant cohorts.

133         Pregnancy impacts drug-metabolizing enzyme function regardless of genotype, with the  
134 activity of CYP2D6 increasing by 25-200% (Ke et al., 2013; Tracy et al., 2005) and CYP2C19  
135 decreasing by ~50% (McGready et al., 2003), particularly in the third trimester. Though higher  
136 SSRI doses are generally required in late pregnancy to achieve pre-pregnancy serum  
137 concentrations (Hostetter et al., 2000; Sit et al., 2008), the relative contribution of all factors  
138 contributing to this need for a higher dose (e.g., changes in volume of distribution, glomerular  
139 filtration rate, glucuronidation, enzyme function) is unclear, and the effect of genotype in  
140 pregnancy is largely unknown. Impact of *CYP2D6* genotype on depression symptoms amongst  
141 women taking SSRIs prenatally has been explored in only two studies(Bérard, Gaedigk, Sheehy,  
142 Chambers, Roth, Bozzo, Johnson, Kao, Lavigne, Wolfe, Quinn, Dieter, & Zhao, 2017; Ververs

143 et al., 2009). There are no studies that have evaluated the impact of *CYP2C19* genotype during  
144 pregnancy.

#### 145 **Purpose**

146 This study tested the hypothesis that women with function-altering variants in the  
147 pharmacogenes *CYP2D6* or *CYP2C19*, who took the SSRIs paroxetine, citalopram, escitalopram,  
148 or sertraline prenatally, would have more depression symptoms than women whose  
149 pharmacogenetic variants have been associated with normal SSRI metabolism.

#### 150 **Materials and Methods**

151 This study was a secondary analysis of data collected in previous cohort studies.

#### 152 **Recruitment & study procedure for previous cohorts**

153 Participants were recruited as part of two prospective, longitudinal cohort studies: the  
154 Austin cohort - cohort A (Hanley et al., 2013), and the Oberlander cohort - cohort O (Hanley et  
155 al., 2013) (Kennedy et al., 2016)(Text box 1 for details). Studies were approved by the  
156 UBC/Children's and Women's Hospital ethics boards (cohort A: H06-70145; cohort O1: H00-  
157 70500; cohort O2: H05-70629).

158 From these cohorts, participants were eligible for analysis if they: had a lifetime  
159 diagnosis of depression; were regularly taking paroxetine, sertraline, citalopram, or escitalopram  
160 for a minimum of two weeks prior to enrollment (to allow sufficient time for therapeutic  
161 response (Cox et al., 1987a); and had provided a DNA sample and an Edinburgh Postnatal  
162 Depression Scale (EPDS) score during pregnancy ( $N=83$ ). Blood or extracted DNA samples  
163 from both cohorts were stored in  $-80^{\circ}$  freezers between collection and analysis.

#### 164 **Depression symptom measurement**



165 The EPDS is a self-report instrument with strong reliability ( $\alpha=0.87$ )(Cox et al., 1987b),  
166 which was designed for perinatal use to assess symptoms of depression(Murray & Cox, 1990).  
167 Higher EPDS scores indicate more depression symptoms (range: 0-30).

### 168 **Pharmacogenetic analyses**

169 DNA was extracted from blood samples and quantified according to published protocol  
170 (Shukla et al., 2015). The following alleles were genotyped: *CYP2D6* \*2 through \*11, \*13, \*14,  
171 \*17, \*29, \*36, \*41, *CYP2C19* \*2, \*3, \*4, \*17 (See Supplemental Table S1 for further details).  
172 Cohort A was analyzed using a custom pharmacogenetic panel consisting of pre-plated TaqMan  
173 assays (Applied Biosystems, now Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA). Reactions (10  $\mu$ l  
174 with 10 ng DNA per reaction) were performed in 384-well plates on the QuantStudio 7.0 Real  
175 Time PCR System (Thermo-Scientific). Cohort O1 was genotyped using restriction fragment  
176 length polymorphism (RFLP) assays carried out on a 6.6 kb long-range PCR (XL-PCR) fragment  
177 encompassing the *CYP2D6* gene. Cohort O2 was genotyped using commercially available  
178 TaqMan assays (Applied Biosystems, now Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA) directly on  
179 gDNA. Eight  $\mu$ l reactions were performed in 96-well plates under conditions recommended by  
180 the manufacturer. Both cohorts were also interrogated for the presence of *CYP2D6* copy number  
181 variation (deletions and duplications). For variant classification procedures, see Text box 1.

### 182 **Statistical analyses**

183 We used descriptive statistics to summarize demographic variables, EPDS scores,  
184 metabolizer phenotypes, and standardized daily SSRI doses (prescribed daily dose  
185 (PDD)/defined daily dose (DDD) - the international classification system for drug utilization  
186 research recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO Collaborating Centre for Drug

187 Statistics Methodology, 2019)). We compared cohorts A and O using parametric or non-  
188 parametric tests, as appropriate.

189 To test the main hypothesis, we compared mean depression scores across the four groups  
190 (ultrarapid metabolizer (UM), normal metabolizer (NM), intermediate metabolizer (IM), and  
191 poor metabolizer (PM)) using the Kruskal-Wallis test. Because this was a secondary analysis of  
192 available data and considering the complexity of performing power analyses for non-parametric  
193 tests, we did not perform an *a priori* power calculation. The eta-squared measure and epsilon-  
194 squared estimate of effect sizes were calculated for the main comparison (Tomczak & Tomczak,  
195 2014). Given the single hypothesis, the threshold for statistical significance was set at  $\alpha=0.05$ .  
196 Data analyses were conducted using SPSS version 25 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY).

## 197 Results

### 198 Descriptive statistics

199 Participant characteristics and descriptive statistics are presented in Table 1. A range of  
200 EPDS scores were observed across standardized SSRI daily doses (Figure 1) and for each  
201 metabolizer group. Predictions of phenotype from genotype were as follows: 53 normal  
202 metabolizers, 15 ultrarapid metabolizers, 10 intermediate metabolizers, and 5 poor metabolizers  
203 (Table 2), which aligns with similar populations (Fricke-Galindo et al., 2016; LLerena et al.,  
204 2014).

### 205 Group comparisons

206 The Kruskal-Wallis test was selected for the main hypothesis because assumptions  
207 underlying ANCOVA (the preferred analysis) were found to be violated (all variables of interest  
208 were found to violate the assumption of normality, and none of the potential covariates of  
209 interest correlated with EPDS score). There was no statistically significant difference between

210 EPDS scores across the four predicted metabolizer groups ( $H(3)=.73$ ,  $p=.87$ ,  $\eta^2=.029$   
211 (Lenhard & Lenhard, 2016),  $\epsilon^2=.0089$  (Tomczak & Tomczak, 2014))(Table 3;  
212 Figure 2). Results of further exploratory analyses to enable more precise comparisons to previous  
213 literature can be found in Supplemental results.

## 214 Discussion

215 This is the first study of *CYP2C19* variation in relation to depression symptoms in  
216 pregnancy, and the second interrogating pharmacogenetic variation in relation to depression  
217 symptoms and citalopram, escitalopram, and sertraline use in pregnancy, which highlights the  
218 dearth of research connecting genotype to phenotype within the context of SSRI use in  
219 pregnancy. We found no statistical difference between metabolizer group and EPDS scores  
220 amongst cohorts of women taking SSRIs in the second and third trimesters of pregnancy.

221 Our sample size was relatively small, which could suggest lack of power as an  
222 explanation for our finding of no significant difference. However, it is also important to consider  
223 effect size and clinical significance. The  $\eta^2$  effect size we observed is typically  
224 interpreted as being “small” in magnitude (Pedersen, n.d.). While  $\eta^2$  is a more  
225 commonly used measure of effect size, it is uncorrected and positively biased. Given that, we  
226 also calculated the  $\epsilon^2$  effect size, which is a corrected measure of effect size. The  
227  $\epsilon^2$  effect size we found was less than .01, which has been characterized as  
228 “negligible” in magnitude (Rea & Parker, 1992). Detecting an effect of this magnitude would  
229 require a sample size of 216,769. Accordingly, the observed difference between groups does not  
230 appear to be of clinical significance; it has been proposed that a difference of clinical  
231 significance can be approximated by  $\frac{1}{2}$  the standard deviation of the mean score (Norman et al.,  
232 2003). In this case,  $\frac{1}{2}$  the standard deviation of the mean EPDS score ( $M=8.51$ ;  $SD=5.56$ ) is 2.78.

233 The largest difference between mean EPDS scores for the four metabolizer groups in our study is  
234 1.87 (between PM and NM groups).

235         There are other possibilities that could explain our finding of no significant difference  
236 between metabolizer group and EPDS scores. Our metabolizer predictions were based on  
237 available data, synthesized in the CPIC and DPWG guidelines regarding genotype-guided dosing  
238 for SSRIs (Hicks et al., 2015b). However, these guidelines are intended for use in the general,  
239 non-pregnant population, and based on evidence using non-pregnant samples. Evidence shows  
240 that the activity of CYP450 enzymes differs during pregnancy (Pariante et al., 2016), specifically  
241 that pregnancy induces CYP2D6 expression levels which leads to an increase in activity (Ke et  
242 al., 2013; Tracy et al., 2005), and a decrease in CYP2C19 activity (McGready et al., 2003). Thus,  
243 metabolizer predictions based on data collected outside the prenatal context are likely not  
244 appropriate to apply during pregnancy.

245         There is also insufficient evidence at present to combine genotype information from  
246 *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* to predict SSRI metabolic capacity based on genotypes for both genes –  
247 even outside the perinatal context. It is possible that differences between EPDS scores would  
248 emerge for our sample if it becomes possible to use a holistic phenotype prediction algorithm  
249 incorporating genotype information for all genes in the SSRI metabolic pathways. However, this  
250 algorithm would likely also need to be modified for use in pregnancy, as suggested by  
251 pharmacokinetic studies (Deligiannidis et al., 2014). In particular, one study evaluated  
252 pharmacokinetic changes during pregnancy for citalopram, escitalopram, and sertraline, and  
253 corresponding depression symptoms, and found increased metabolism and increased depression  
254 symptoms in the third trimester of pregnancy (Sit et al., 2008). The authors suggested that the

255 pregnancy-induced activation of CYP2D6 overrides the pregnancy-induced inhibition of  
256 CYP2C19.

257         It is difficult to conclude for certain how our findings compare to the results of the first  
258 study that evaluated pharmacogenetic variation in relation to depression symptoms and the use of  
259 paroxetine in pregnancy ( $N=74$ ). This study found that depression symptoms increased for their  
260 extensive/ultrarapid metabolizer group, but remained steady for their intermediate/poor  
261 metabolizer group (Ververs et al., 2009), however, the statistical analysis used to reach this  
262 conclusion was not specified, nor were any statistical values. This study only collected data in  
263 the second and third trimesters and found no significant differences in the proportions of women  
264 scoring above an EPDS cut-off score of 12 or more in their extensive/ultrarapid metabolizer  
265 group compared to their intermediate/poor metabolizer group at any time-point. They also  
266 reported higher depression scores overall for those in the intermediate/poor metabolizer group  
267 compared to the extensive/ultrarapid metabolizer group, which is contrary to theoretical  
268 expectations. We do note that this study obtained data at three prenatal time-points, and therefore  
269 was able to make comparisons of predicted phenotype, observed phenotype (plasma paroxetine  
270 concentrations), and EPDS scores across the second and third trimesters of pregnancy. Thus, it is  
271 possible that an influence of *CYP2D6* variation on depression symptoms in pregnancy amongst  
272 individuals taking paroxetine are only apprehensible intra-individually, over the course of  
273 pregnancy, although we also note that the previous study did not report a significant interaction  
274 term for depression symptoms in their model.

275         It is also difficult to conclude for certain how our findings compare to the results of the  
276 second study that evaluated pharmacogenetic variation in relation to depression symptoms and  
277 the use of antidepressants in pregnancy ( $N=246$ ) because, while the article reports that EPDS

278 scores were collected in the third trimester, it does not report any results for the third trimester  
279 (Bérard, Gaedigk, Sheehy, Chambers, Roth, Bozzo, Johnson, Kao, Lavigne, Wolfe, Quinn,  
280 Dieter, Zhao, et al., 2017). The study does report a significantly higher proportion of women in  
281 the “faster” metabolizer group compared to “slow” metabolizers with depression scores in the  
282 first trimester above an EPDS cut-off of 13 or more (19.81 vs. 5.88%,  $p=0.049$ ), but that this  
283 difference disappears in the second trimester.

### 284 **Limitations**

285 As already discussed, our sample size was small, however, the observed effect sizes and  
286 evaluation of clinical significance suggest that any potential differences that may exist between  
287 groups would be very small. We posit that it is more likely that predictions for metabolizer  
288 phenotype (that were based on available data from non-pregnant cohorts) were not appropriate  
289 for use during pregnancy. With an improved understanding of *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* enzyme  
290 activity in pregnancy, and the impact of *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* genetic variation on their  
291 activity in pregnancy, it would be possible to refine a prediction algorithm and re-test our  
292 hypothesis.

293 It is also possible that confounding variables masked the impact of *CYP2D6* and  
294 *CYP2C19* genetic variation in our sample, such as SSRI dose, maternal weight, cigarette  
295 smoking, and co-medication with substances that have competing or interacting impacts on the  
296 CYP system. Unfortunately, including these covariates in our analysis was not possible given  
297 either the limitations of secondary data analyses, or violations of the assumptions underlying our  
298 preferred analytic approach - ANCOVA. In particular, it is worth noting that no relationship was  
299 observed between predicted metabolizer status and standardized daily dose. Theoretically, it  
300 might be expected that individuals who are poor metabolizers might end up titrating to a lower

301 dose, compared to normal metabolizers, through trial and error, while ultra-rapid metabolizers  
302 might titrate to a higher dose. No such relationship was observed in this sample, which further  
303 meant that it wasn't possible to include standardized daily dose as a covariate in an ANCOVA.  
304 Additionally, SSRI plasma concentrations were not available to explore the impact of these  
305 potential confounders more directly.

306         Data on SSRI side effects and adherence were not available (again, due to limitations of  
307 secondary data analyses). However, this would be a greater concern for a Type I error if there  
308 were a statistically significant difference between the groups. Theoretically, individuals who are  
309 poor metabolizers have the greatest risk for side effects and – consequently – low adherence.  
310 Individuals who are ultra-rapid metabolizers have the lowest risk for side effects and low  
311 adherence. This could impact depression scores such that there would be a larger difference  
312 between poor metabolizers and ultra-rapid metabolizers, that would be partially due to the  
313 differences in SSRI adherence (with side effects as a mediating variable). This risk is mitigated  
314 because no difference in EPDS scores across the groups was observed in these data.

315         Further, it is possible that participants may have been miscategorized in terms of  
316 predicted phenotype because we did not fully sequence *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* for all  
317 participants. However, the alleles that were not tested for all participants are rare, and the testing  
318 that was completed for all participants was chosen based on observed population allele  
319 frequencies (greater than 1% minor allele frequency in one or more in the 1000 Genomes Project  
320 major continental population groups). These assays have been validated to ensure 99.5%  
321 genotyping accuracy.

322 **Clinical implications & future research**

323 Results from this study do not support the clinical use of pharmacogenetic testing for  
324 SSRI prescribing during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy. Our results, in the context  
325 of previous findings and the body of literature documenting changes in drug-metabolizing  
326 enzyme function in pregnancy (Ke et al., 2013; McGready et al., 2003; Tracy et al., 2005),  
327 suggest that there is insufficient evidence at this time for the application of the practice  
328 guidelines for *CYP2D6/CYP2C19*-guided SSRI dosing in the second or third trimesters of  
329 pregnancy. However, it is important for clinicians to be aware that women might seek this testing  
330 from companies that offer it directly to consumers. Clinicians could proactively explore  
331 women's illness and medication necessity beliefs and share what is currently known regarding  
332 the causes of perinatal depression, ideally referring to a psychiatric genetic counsellor to best  
333 support this discussion (Inglis et al., 2017). Further, clinicians could consider sharing  
334 information about available direct-to-consumer pharmacogenetic testing, along with current  
335 limits regarding its interpretation and clinical application.

336 Additional research is warranted before pharmacogenetic testing can offer women  
337 guidance for the personalization of antidepressant medication choice and dose during pregnancy.  
338 Historically, clinical trials evaluating antidepressant medications have not prioritized the  
339 inclusion of women, and – in fact – have specifically excluded pregnant women (Galea et al.,  
340 2019; van der Zande et al., 2017; Yonkers & Brawman-Mintzer, 2002). Thus, our knowledge of  
341 the function of antidepressants in pregnant women is woefully inadequate. Even our knowledge  
342 of the function of antidepressants in general populations does not currently allow for combining  
343 results of pharmacogenetic testing of different genes, such as *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19*, in a  
344 holistic phenotype prediction algorithm. Avenues for future research include: 1) the impact of  
345 pharmacogenetic variants of multiple genes together on phenotype (e.g., polygenic risk scores



346 for the contributions of pharmacogenetic variation to SSRI metabolism); 2) the function of  
347 enzymes relevant to SSRI metabolism during pregnancy; 3) the function of metabolic pathways  
348 responsible for antidepressants other than SSRIs and their relationships to underlying genomic  
349 variation; and 4) the impact of pharmacogene variation (via metabolic activity) on maternal and  
350 infant outcomes, including for women taking multiple antidepressants at the same time.

351

## References

- 352 Altar, C. A., Hornberger, J., Shewade, A., Cruz, V., Garrison, J., & Mrazek, D. (2013). Clinical  
353 validity of cytochrome P450 metabolism and serotonin gene variants in psychiatric  
354 pharmacotherapy. *International Review of Psychiatry*, *25*(5), 509–533.  
355 <https://doi.org/10.3109/09540261.2013.825579>
- 356 Bérard, A., Gaedigk, A., Sheehy, O., Chambers, C., Roth, M., Bozzo, P., Johnson, D., Kao, K.,  
357 Lavigne, S., Wolfe, L., Quinn, D., Dieter, K., & Zhao, J. P. (2017). Association between  
358 CYP2D6 genotypes and the risk of antidepressant discontinuation, dosage modification and  
359 the occurrence of maternal depression during pregnancy. *Frontiers in Pharmacology*,  
360 *8*(JUL). <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2017.00402>
- 361 Bérard, A., Gaedigk, A., Sheehy, O., Chambers, C., Roth, M., Bozzo, P., Johnson, D., Kao, K.,  
362 Lavigne, S., Wolfe, L., Quinn, D., Dieter, K., Zhao, J.-P., & OTIS (MotherToBaby)  
363 Collaborative Research Committee, the O. (MotherToBaby) C. R. (2017). Association  
364 between CYP2D6 Genotypes and the Risk of Antidepressant Discontinuation, Dosage  
365 Modification and the Occurrence of Maternal Depression during Pregnancy. *Frontiers in*  
366 *Pharmacology*, *8*, 402. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2017.00402>
- 367 Brandl, E. J., Tiwari, A. K., Zhou, X., Deluce, J., Kennedy, J. L., Müller, D. J., & Richter, M. A.  
368 (2014). Influence of CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 gene variants on antidepressant response in  
369 obsessive-compulsive disorder. *Pharmacogenomics Journal*, *14*(2), 176–181.  
370 <https://doi.org/10.1038/tpj.2013.12>
- 371 Cohen, L. S., Altshuler, L. L., Harlow, B. L., Nonacs, R., Jeffrey Newport, D., Viguera, A. C.,  
372 Suri, R., Burt, V. K., Hendrick, V., Reminick, A. M., Ada Loughhead, B., Allison Vitonis, B.  
373 F., & Zachary Stowe, B. N. (2006). Relapse of Major Depression During Pregnancy in  
374 Women Who Maintain or Discontinue Antidepressant Treatment. *Jama*, *295*(5), 499–507.
- 375 Cox, J. L., Holden, J. M., & Sagovsky, R. (1987a). Detection of Postnatal Depression:  
376 Development of the 10-item Edinburgh Postnatal Depression scale. *British Journal of*  
377 *Psychiatry*, *150*(6), 782–786. <https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.150.6.782>
- 378 Cox, J. L., Holden, J. M., & Sagovsky, R. (1987b). Detection of postnatal depression.  
379 Development of the 10-item Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale. *British Journal of*  
380 *Psychiatry*, *150*, 782–786.
- 381 Daw, J. R., Mintzes, B., Law, M. R., Hanley, G. E., & Morgan, S. G. (2012). Prescription Drug  
382 Use in Pregnancy: A Retrospective, Population-Based Study in British Columbia, Canada  
383 (2001-2006). *Clinical Therapeutics*, *34*(1), 239–249.  
384 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clinthera.2011.11.025>
- 385 Deligiannidis, K. M., Byatt, N., & Freeman, M. P. (2014). Pharmacotherapy for mood disorders  
386 in pregnancy: A review of pharmacokinetic changes and clinical recommendations for  
387 therapeutic drug monitoring. *Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology*, *34*(2), 244.  
388 <https://doi.org/10.1097/JCP.0000000000000087>
- 389 Dutch Pharmacogenetics Working Group (DPWG) of the Royal Dutch Pharmacists Association  
390 (KNMP). (2018). *Dutch Pharmacogenetics Working Group guidelines update November*  
391 *2018*.
- 392 Fricke-Galindo, I., Céspedes-Garro, C., Rodrigues-Soares, F., Naranjo, M. E. G., Delgado, De  
393 Andrés, F., López-López, M., Peñas-Lledó, E., & Llerena, A. (2016). Interethnic variation  
394 of CYP2C19 alleles, “predicted” phenotypes and “measured” metabolic phenotypes across

- 395 world populations. *Pharmacogenomics Journal*, 16(2), 113.  
 396 <https://doi.org/10.1038/tpj.2015.70>
- 397 Galea, L. A. M., Choleris, E., Albert, A. Y. K., McCarthy, M. M., & Sohrabji, F. (2019). The  
 398 promises and pitfalls of sex difference research. In *Frontiers in Neuroendocrinology*.  
 399 Academic Press Inc. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.yfrne.2019.100817>
- 400 Grigoriadis, S., VonderPorten, E. H., Mamisashvili, L., Eady, A., Tomlinson, G., Dennis, C. L.,  
 401 Koren, G., Steiner, M., Mousmanis, P., Cheung, A., & Ross, L. E. (2013). The effect of  
 402 prenatal antidepressant exposure on neonatal adaptation: A systematic review and meta-  
 403 analysis. *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, 74(4), e309–e320.  
 404 <https://doi.org/10.4088/JCP.12r07967>
- 405 Grigoriadis, S., VonderPorten, E. H., Mamisashvili, L., Tomlinson, G., Dennis, C.-L., Koren, G.,  
 406 Steiner, M., Mousmanis, P., Cheung, A., Radford, K., & others. (2013). The impact of  
 407 maternal depression during pregnancy on perinatal outcomes: a systematic review and  
 408 meta-analysis. *J Clin Psychiatry*, 74(4), e321–e341. <https://doi.org/10.4088/JCP.12r07968>
- 409 Hanley, G. E., Brain, U., & Oberlander, T. F. (2013). Infant developmental outcomes following  
 410 prenatal exposure to antidepressants, and maternal depressed mood and positive affect.  
 411 *Early Human Development*, 89(8), 519–524.  
 412 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.earlhumdev.2012.12.012>
- 413 Hanley, G. E., & Mintzes, B. (2014). Patterns of psychotropic medicine use in pregnancy in the  
 414 United States from 2006 to 2011 among women with private insurance. *BMC Pregnancy*  
 415 *and Childbirth*, 14(1), 242. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2393-14-242>
- 416 Hanley, G. E., Smolina, K., Mintzes, B., Oberlander, T. F., & Morgan, S. G. (2016). Postpartum  
 417 Hemorrhage and Use of Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor Antidepressants in Pregnancy.  
 418 *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, 127(3), 553–561.  
 419 <https://doi.org/10.1097/AOG.0000000000001200>
- 420 Hicks, J. K., Bishop, J. R., Sangkuhl, K., Muller, D. J., Ji, Y., Leckband, S. G., Leeder, J. S.,  
 421 Graham, R. L., Chiulli, D. L., Llerena, A., Skaar, T. C., Scott, S. A., Stingl, J. C., Klein, T.  
 422 E., Caudle, K. E., & Gaedigk, A. (2015a). Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation  
 423 Consortium (CPIC) guideline for CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 genotypes and dosing of selective  
 424 serotonin reuptake inhibitors. *Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, 98(2), 127–134.  
 425 <https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.147>
- 426 Hicks, J. K., Bishop, J. R., Sangkuhl, K., Muller, D. J., Ji, Y., Leckband, S. G., Leeder, J. S.,  
 427 Graham, R. L., Chiulli, D. L., Llerena, A., Skaar, T. C., Scott, S. A., Stingl, J. C., Klein, T.  
 428 E., Caudle, K. E., & Gaedigk, A. (2015b). Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation  
 429 Consortium (CPIC) guideline for CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 genotypes and dosing of selective  
 430 serotonin reuptake inhibitors. *Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, 98(2), 127–134.  
 431 <https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.147>
- 432 Hippman, C., & Balneaves, L. G. (2018). Women’s decision making about antidepressant use  
 433 during pregnancy: A narrative review. *Depression and Anxiety*, 35(12), 1158–1167.  
 434 <https://doi.org/10.1002/da.22821>
- 435 Hostetter, A., Stowe, Z. N., Strader, J. R., McLaughlin, E., & Llewellyn, A. (2000). Dose of  
 436 selective serotonin uptake inhibitors across pregnancy: Clinical implications. *Depression*  
 437 *and Anxiety*, 11(2), 51–57. [https://doi.org/10.1002/\(SICI\)1520-6394\(2000\)11:2<51::AID-DA1>3.0.CO;2-R](https://doi.org/10.1002/(SICI)1520-6394(2000)11:2<51::AID-DA1>3.0.CO;2-R)
- 439 Inglis, A., Morris, E., & Austin, J. (2017). Prenatal genetic counselling for psychiatric disorders.  
 440 *Prenatal Diagnosis*, 37(1), 6–13. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pd.4878>

- 441 Ke, A. B., Nallani, S. C., Zhao, P., Rostami-Hodjegan, A., Isoherranen, N., & Unadkat, J. D.  
 442 (2013). A physiologically based pharmacokinetic model to predict disposition of CYP2D6  
 443 and CYP1A2 metabolized drugs in pregnant women. *Drug Metabolism and Disposition*,  
 444 75(4), 873–885. <https://doi.org/10.1124/dmd.112.050161>
- 445 Kennedy, S. H., Lam, R. W., McIntyre, R. S., Tourjman, S. V., Bhat, V., Blier, P., Hasnain, M.,  
 446 Jollant, F., Levitt, A. J., MacQueen, G. M., McInerney, S. J., McIntosh, D., Milev, R. V.,  
 447 Müller, D. J., Parikh, S. V., Pearson, N. L., Ravindran, A. V., & Uher, R. (2016). Canadian  
 448 Network for Mood and Anxiety Treatments (CANMAT) 2016 clinical guidelines for the  
 449 management of adults with major depressive disorder: Section 3. Pharmacological  
 450 Treatments. In *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry* (Vol. 61, Issue 9, pp. 540–560). SAGE  
 451 Publications Inc. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0706743716659417>
- 452 Knight, M., Nair, M., Tuffnell, D., Kenyon, S., Shakespeare, J., Brocklehurst, P., & Kurinczuk,  
 453 J. J. (2016). *Saving Lives, Improving Mothers' Care - Surveillance of maternal deaths in the*  
 454 *UK 2012-14 and lessons learned to inform maternity care from the UK and Ireland*  
 455 *Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths and Morbidity 2009-14. A report of*  
 456 *MBRRACE-UK*.
- 457 Lenhard, W., & Lenhard, A. (2016). Calculation of Effect Sizes. In *Psychometrica*.  
 458 <https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.17823.92329>
- 459 Lindahl, V., Pearson, J. L., & Colpe, L. (2005). Prevalence of suicidality during pregnancy and  
 460 the postpartum. *Archives of Women's Mental Health*, 8(2), 77–87.  
 461 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00737-005-0080-1>
- 462 LLerena, A., Naranjo, M. E. G., Rodrigues-Soares, F., Penas-LLedó, E. M., Fariñas, H., &  
 463 Tarazona-Santos, E. (2014). Interethnic variability of CYP2D6 alleles and of predicted and  
 464 measured metabolic phenotypes across world populations. *Expert Opinion on Drug*  
 465 *Metabolism & Toxicology*, 10(11), 1569–1583.  
 466 <https://doi.org/10.1517/17425255.2014.964204>
- 467 McGready, R., Stepniewska, K., Seaton, E., Cho, T., Cho, D., Ginsberg, A., Edstein, M. D.,  
 468 Ashley, E., Looareesuwan, S., White, N. J., & Nosten, F. (2003). Pregnancy and use of oral  
 469 contraceptives reduces the biotransformation of proguanil to cycloguanil. *European Journal*  
 470 *of Clinical Pharmacology*, 59(7), 553–557. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00228-003-0651-x>
- 471 Murray, D., & Cox, J. L. (1990). Screening for depression during pregnancy with the edinburgh  
 472 depression scale (EPDS). *Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology*, 8(2), 99–107.  
 473 <https://doi.org/10.1080/02646839008403615>
- 474 Nofziger, C., Turner, A. J., Sangkuhl, K., Whirl-Carrillo, M., Agúndez, J. A. G., Black, J. L.,  
 475 Dunnenberger, H. M., Ruano, G., Kennedy, M. A., Phillips, M. S., Hachad, H., Klein, T. E.,  
 476 & Gaedigk, A. (2020). PharmVar GeneFocus: CYP2D6. In *Clinical Pharmacology and*  
 477 *Therapeutics* (Vol. 107, Issue 1, pp. 154–170). Nature Publishing Group.  
 478 <https://doi.org/10.1002/cpt.1643>
- 479 Norman, G. R., Sloan, J. A., & Wyrwich, K. W. (2003). Interpretation of Changes in Health-  
 480 related Quality of Life. *Medical Care*, 41(5), 582–592.  
 481 <https://doi.org/10.1097/01.mlr.0000062554.74615.4c>
- 482 O'Hara, M. W., & Swain, A. M. (1996). Rates and risk of postpartum depression—a meta-  
 483 analysis. *International Review of Psychiatry*, 8(1), 37–54.  
 484 <https://doi.org/10.3109/09540269609037816>

- 485 Pariente, G., Leibson, T., Carls, A., Adams-Webber, T., Ito, S., & Koren, G. (2016). Pregnancy-  
 486 Associated Changes in Pharmacokinetics: A Systematic Review. *PLOS Medicine*, *13*(11),  
 487 e1002160. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002160>
- 488 Pedersen, S. (n.d.). *Effect Sizes and “What If” Analyses as Supplements to Statistical*  
 489 *Significance Tests*.
- 490 Rea, L. M., & Parker, R. A. (1992). *Designing and conducting survey research: a comprehensive*  
 491 *guide*. Jossey-Bass Publishers.
- 492 Shukla, A., Raut, A., & Choudhary, S. (2015). Optimization of PCR DNA Sequencing Method  
 493 for SNP Detection in Abacavir Sensitivity Gene. *Clinical Research in HIV/AIDS*, *2*(2),  
 494 1018.
- 495 Sit, D. K., Perel, J. M., Helsel, J. C., & Wisner, K. L. (2008). Changes in antidepressant  
 496 metabolism and dosing across pregnancy and early postpartum. *Journal of Clinical*  
 497 *Psychiatry*, *69*(4), 652–658. <https://doi.org/10.4088/JCP.v69n0419>
- 498 Tomczak, M., & Tomczak, E. (2014). The need to report effect size estimates revisited. An  
 499 overview of some recommended measures of effect size. In *TRENDS in Sport Sciences*  
 500 (Vol. 1, Issue 21).
- 501 Tracy, T. S., Venkataramanan, R., Glover, D. D., Caritis, S. N., & National Institute for Child  
 502 Health and Human Development Network of Maternal-Fetal-Medicine Units. (2005).  
 503 Temporal changes in drug metabolism (CYP1A2, CYP2D6 and CYP3A Activity) during  
 504 pregnancy. *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *192*(2), 633–639.  
 505 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajog.2004.08.030>
- 506 Tsai, M. H., Lin, K. M., Hsiao, M. C., Shen, W. W., Lu, M. L., Tang, H. S., Fang, C. K., Wu, C.  
 507 S., Lu, S. C., Liu, S. C., Chen, C. Y., & Liu, Y. L. (2010). Genetic polymorphisms of  
 508 cytochrome P450 enzymes influence metabolism of the antidepressant escitalopram and  
 509 treatment response. *Pharmacogenomics*, *11*(4), 537–546. <https://doi.org/10.2217/pgs.09.168>
- 510 van der Zande, I. S. E., van der Graaf, R., Oudijk, M. A., & van Delden, J. J. M. (2017).  
 511 Vulnerability of pregnant women in clinical research. *Journal of Medical Ethics*, *43*(10),  
 512 657–663. <https://doi.org/10.1136/medethics-2016-103955>
- 513 Ververs, F. F. T., Voorbij, H. A. M., Zwarts, P., Belitser, S. v., Egberts, T. C. G., Visser, G. H.  
 514 A., & Schobben, A. F. A. M. (2009). Effect of cytochrome P450 2D6 genotype on maternal  
 515 paroxetine plasma concentrations during pregnancy. *Clinical Pharmacokinetics*, *48*(10),  
 516 677–683. <https://doi.org/10.2165/11318050-000000000-00000>
- 517 WHO Collaborating Centre for Drug Statistics Methodology. (2019). *ATC/DDD Index*.  
 518 [https://www.whocc.no/atc\\_ddd\\_index/](https://www.whocc.no/atc_ddd_index/)
- 519 Yonkers, K. A., & Brawman-Mintzer, O. (2002). The pharmacologic treatment of depression: Is  
 520 gender a critical factor? In *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry* (Vol. 63, Issue 7, pp. 610–615).  
 521 Physicians Postgraduate Press Inc. <https://doi.org/10.4088/JCP.v63n0714>
- 522
- 523

524  
525  
526  
527  
528  
529  
530  
531  
532  
533  
534  
535  
536  
537  
538  
539  
540  
541

Figure Captions

**Fig. 1** Depression (EPDS) scores across standardized selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) daily doses (prescribed daily dose (PDD) / defined daily dose (DDD))

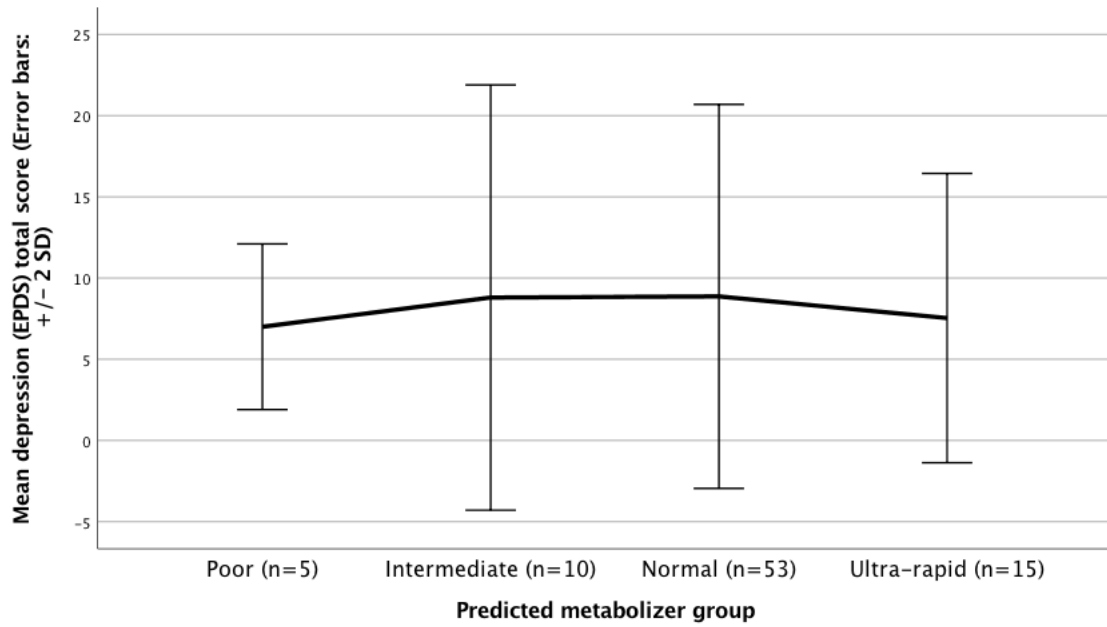
**Fig. 2** Mean depression (EPDS) scores (+/- 2 standard deviations (SD)) for each predicted metabolizer group

Supplementary Information Captions

**Online resource 1: Table S1** Genotyping summary

**Online resource 2:** Supplemental results







Text box 1. Methodology details: Data collection and interpretation procedures

Recruitment and study procedures for the two cohorts

Cohort A was recruited between 2007 – 2016. Prenatal data collection for this cohort involved one visit for enrollment, occurring at 15 weeks gestation or later. This enrollment visit occurred either at participants' homes or at the BC Children's and Women's Hospital. Cohort O was comprised of two sub-cohorts, with very similar procedures and characteristics – cohort O1 recruited between 2002 – 2005, cohort O2 from 2006 – 2010. Prenatal data collection for this cohort involved an enrollment visit in the second trimester of pregnancy, and a visit between 33-36 weeks gestation. These visits occurred at the BC Children's and Women's Hospital. All cohorts were pregnant, English-speaking women recruited from the Greater Vancouver area through community advertising or from the British Columbia (BC) Reproductive Mental Health specialty clinic. As part of extensive data collection including clinical interviews, questionnaires, and blood draws, participants completed the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) to measure symptoms of depression and provided details in terms of SSRI dose (if applicable), weight, and gestational age (self-reported) at least once during pregnancy. For cohort O, data from the 33-36 week visit were used for this study.

Pharmacogenetic variant classification

To predict metabolizer phenotype from participant genotype, it was first necessary to translate genotype to star allele classification. For both *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19*, classification of genotype to star allele were made as recommended by the Pharmacogene Variation Consortium (PharmVar) at <https://www.pharmvar.org/> (Gaedigk et al., 2018). From star alleles, it was then possible to classify by metabolic functional status using the supplemental data available as a companion to the Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium (CPIC) guideline for

*CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* genotype-guided SSRI dosing (Hicks et al., 2015)(*CYP2D6*-Supplemental Table S2; *CYP2C19*-Supplemental Table S5). For *CYP2D6* genotype, activity scores were assigned as follows: ultrarapid metabolizer (UM) $>2$ ; normal metabolizer (NM)=2, 1.5, 1; intermediate metabolizer (IM)=0.5; poor metabolizer (PM)=0. The functional status classifications for each allele were then combined (two alleles per gene per participant) into two predicted metabolizer phenotypes (one for each gene) for each participant (*CYP2D6*-Supplemental Table S14; *CYP2C19*-Supplemental Table S15). Given the lack of published protocol for combining functional status classifications from multiple genes into one holistic metabolizer phenotype prediction for each participant, the predicted metabolizer phenotype group that was used for analysis for each participant was assigned based on the primary metabolic pathway for the SSRI used. In accordance with both CPIC and Dutch Pharmacogenetics Working Group (DPWG) guidelines (Dutch Pharmacogenetics Working Group (DPWG) of the Royal Dutch Pharmacists Association (KNMP), 2018; Hicks et al., 2015), predicted metabolizer group was assigned based on *CYP2D6* genotype for participants taking paroxetine, and based on *CYP2C19* genotype for participants taking sertraline, citalopram, or escitalopram.

Table 1. Participant characteristics and descriptive statistics ( $N=83$ )

Characteristic	Number of participants (%) or Mean (SD; Range)			
	Total	Cohort A ( $n=46$ )	Cohort O ( $n=37$ )	Difference between Cohorts A and O?
SSRI taken				
Paroxetine	28 (33.7%)	9 (19.6)	19 (51.4)	$(p = .003, \text{Fisher's Exact Test})$
Citalopram	25 (30.1%)	16 (34.8)	9 (24.3)	
Sertraline	18 (21.7%)	10 (21.7)	8 (21.6)	
Escitalopram	12 (14.5%)	11 (23.9)	1 (2.7)	
SSRI standardized daily dose	1.56 (.93; .25-5)	1.53 (.87; .25-4)	1.59 (1.01; .25-5)	ns
Age (years)	31.69 (5.41; 19-44)	31.29 (6.13; 19-44)	32.16 (4.43; 24-40)	ns
Gestational age (weeks) <sup>a</sup>	32.28 (5.19; 15-39)	30.65 (6.44; 15.86-39.14)	34.31 (1.37; 32.85-37.28)	$t(49.98) = 3.75, p < .001$
Second trimester	12 (14.5)	12 (26.1)	0 (0)	$\chi^2(1) = 11.28, p = .001$
Third trimester	71 (85.5)	34 (73.9)	37 (100)	
Weight (kg)	78.44 (12.5; 53-126.10)	80.26 (13.58; 53-126.10)	76.28 (10.87; 59.4-103.5)	ns
Education (years)	15.91 (2.96; 10-29)	16.05 (2.43; 10-20)	15.76 (3.48; 11-29)	ns
EPDS score	8.51 (5.56; 0-29)	9.74 (6.2; 1-29)	6.97 (4.25; 0-17)	$t(79.17) = -2.40, p = .019$
Score of 15 or more	10 (12)	8 (17.4)	2 (5.4)	ns
Score of 13 or more	17 (21)	13 (28.3)	4 (10.8)	ns

*Note.* EPDS = Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale; SSRI = selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor; SD = standard deviation

<sup>a</sup>Gestational age at time of EPDS score used in analysis for this study

Table 2. Summary of genotype results and predicted metabolizer phenotypes (N=83)

<b>Number of participants with combined genotype</b>	<b><i>CYP2D6</i> genotype (star alleles)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup></b>	<b><i>CYP2C19</i> genotype (star alleles)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>SSRI taken (number of participants)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup> assigned for analysis</b>
8	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	Escitalopram (2)/ Sertraline (4)/ Citalopram (1)/ Paroxetine (1)	NM
2	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	<i>*1/*2</i>	IM	Paroxetine (1)	NM
					Sertraline (1)	IM
4	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	<i>*1/*17</i>	UM	Paroxetine (3)	NM
					Citalopram (1)	UM
1	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	<i>*2/*17</i>	IM	Citalopram	IM
1	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	<i>*17/*17</i>	UM	Citalopram	UM
1	Unknown <sup>b</sup>	--	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	Escitalopram	NM
2	<i>*1/*2</i>	NM	<i>*1/*2</i>	IM	Paroxetine	NM
1	<i>*1/*2</i>	NM	<i>*2/*2</i>	PM	Citalopram	PM
2	<i>*1x2/*4</i>	NM	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	Sertraline (1)/ Citalopram (1)	NM
8	<i>*1/*4</i>	NM	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	Citalopram (5)/ Sertraline (1)/ Escitalopram (1)/ Paroxetine (1)	NM

<b>Number of participants with combined genotype</b>	<b><i>CYP2D6</i> genotype (star alleles)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup></b>	<b><i>CYP2C19</i> genotype (star alleles)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>SSRI taken (number of participants)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup></b>
2	<i>*1/*4</i>	NM	<i>*1/*2</i>	IM	Paroxetine	NM
8	<i>*1/*4</i>	NM	<i>*1/*17</i>	UM	Paroxetine	NM
					Citalopram (2)/ Escitalopram (4)/ Sertraline (1)	UM
1	<i>*1/*5</i>	NM	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	Escitalopram	NM
1	<i>*1/*5</i>	NM	<i>*1/*2</i>	IM	Escitalopram	IM
1	<i>*1/*6</i>	NM	<i>*1/*17</i>	UM	Citalopram	UM
2	<i>*1/*9</i>	NM	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	Paroxetine (1)/ Citalopram (1)	NM
1	<i>*1/*9</i>	NM	<i>*1/*17</i>	UM	Citalopram	UM
1	<i>*1/*10</i>	NM	<i>*1/*2</i>	IM	Paroxetine	NM
1	<i>*1/*10</i>	NM	<i>*2/*2</i>	PM	Paroxetine	NM
4	<i>*1/*41</i>	NM	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	Sertraline (2)/ Citalopram (2)	NM
1	<i>*1/*41</i>	NM	<i>*1/*17</i>	UM	Paroxetine	NM
2	<i>*2/*2</i>	NM	<i>*1/*1</i>	NM	Paroxetine	NM
1	<i>*2/*3</i>	NM	<i>*1/*2</i>	IM	Citalopram	IM

<b>Number of participants with combined genotype</b>	<b><i>CYP2D6</i> genotype (star alleles)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup></b>	<b><i>CYP2C19</i> genotype (star alleles)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>SSRI taken (number of participants)</b>	<b>Predicted metabolizer phenotype<sup>a</sup></b>
1	*2/*4	NM	*1/*1	NM	Paroxetine	NM
1	*2/*4	NM	*1/*17	UM	Sertraline	UM
1	*2/*5	NM	*1/*17	UM	Citalopram	UM
1	*2/*10	NM	*2/*2	PM	Paroxetine	NM
1	*2/*10	NM	*1/*17	UM	Sertraline	UM
3	*2/*41	NM	*1/*1	NM	Citalopram (2)/ Escitalopram (1)	NM
1	*2/*41	NM	*2/*17	IM	Paroxetine	NM
3	*4/*4	PM	*1/*1	NM	Sertraline	NM
1	*4/*4	PM	*1/*2	IM	Escitalopram	IM
1	*4/*4	PM	*2/*17	IM	Citalopram	IM
1	*4/*4	PM	*1/*17	UM	Paroxetine	PM
1	*4/*5	PM	*1/*2	IM	Paroxetine	PM
1	*4/*9	IM	*1/*1	NM	Sertraline	NM
1	*4/*10	IM	*1/*17	UM	Paroxetine	IM
1	*4/*41	IM	*2/*2	PM	Citalopram	PM
1	*4/*41	IM	*1/*1	NM	Citalopram	NM

Number of participants with combined genotype	<i>CYP2D6</i> genotype (star alleles)	Predicted metabolizer phenotype <sup>a</sup>	<i>CYP2C19</i> genotype (star alleles)	Predicted metabolizer phenotype <sup>a</sup>	SSRI taken (number of participants)	Predicted metabolizer phenotype <sup>a</sup>
1	*4/*41	IM	*2/*17	IM	Paroxetine	IM
1	*4/*41	IM	*1/*17	UM	Paroxetine	IM
1	*4/*41	IM	*17/*17	UM	Sertraline	UM
1	*5/*9	IM	*1/*1	NM	Paroxetine	IM
1	*10/*36+10	NM	*2/*2	PM	Sertraline	PM
1	*10/*10	NM	*1/*2	IM	Paroxetine	NM
1	*41/*41	NM	*1/*2	IM	Paroxetine	NM

<sup>a</sup>PM = poor metabolizer, IM = intermediate metabolizer, NM = normal metabolizer, UM = ultrarapid metabolizer

<sup>b</sup>Positive for the deletion, *CYP2D6*\*5, but heterozygous for the \*10-defining variant (rs1065852: C/T). Same result on repeat analysis. No further analysis attempted, given that the participant was taking escitalopram.

Table 3. EPDS total score, with associated standardized SSRI daily dose, maternal weight, and gestational age, for each predicted phenotype group ( $N=83$ )

<b>Predicted Phenotype Group</b>	<b>EPDS total score (Mean, SD)</b>	<b>Standardized SSRI daily dose (PDD/DDD; Median)</b>	<b>Maternal weight (kg; Mean, SD)</b>	<b>Gestational age (weeks; Mean, SD)</b>
Poor Metabolizer ( $n=5$ )	7.00 (2.55)	1.5	78.61 (14.08)	34.17 (1.37)
Intermediate Metabolizer ( $n=10$ )	8.80 (6.55)	1.5	75.88 (15.90)	31.11 (6.19)
Normal Metabolizer ( $n=53$ )	8.87 (5.91)	1.5	77.85 (12.44)	32.29 (5.31)
Ultrarapid metabolizer ( $n=15$ )	7.53 (4.45)	1.0	82.27 (10.19)	32.41 (5.04)

*Note.* EPDS = Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale; SSRI = selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor; SD = standard deviation; PDD = prescribed daily dose; DDD = defined daily dose



**Title:** A cross-sectional study of the relationship between *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* variations and depression symptoms, for women taking SSRIs during pregnancy

**Authors and Affiliations:** Catriona Hippman<sup>1</sup>, Caitlin Slomp<sup>1</sup>, Emily Morris<sup>1</sup>, Rolan Batallones<sup>1</sup>, Angela Inglis<sup>1</sup>, Prescilla Carrion<sup>1</sup>, Ursula Brain<sup>1</sup>, Michelle Higginson<sup>1</sup>, Galen E. B. Wright<sup>3</sup>, Lynda G. Balneaves<sup>3</sup>, Deirdre Ryan<sup>1</sup>, Corey Nislow<sup>1</sup>, Colin J. D. Ross<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Gaedigk<sup>2</sup>, Tim F. Oberlander<sup>1</sup>, Jehannine Austin<sup>1</sup>

(1) University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, BC, Canada

(2) Children's Mercy Kansas City and University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO, U.S.A.

(3) University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

**Corresponding author:**

Jehannine Austin,

UBC Departments of Psychiatry and Medical Genetics

Rm A3-127, 3rd Floor-Translational Lab Building, 938 W28th Ave, Vancouver, BC., V5Z 4H4

Tel.: +1 604 875 2000 x5943

fax: +1 604 875 3871

e-mail: [jehannine.austin@ubc.ca](mailto:jehannine.austin@ubc.ca)

**Journal name:**

Archives of Women's Mental Health

Table S1. Genotyping summary

Allele <sup>a</sup>	Genotyping approach used	rs ID <sup>b</sup>	Genetic variation (e.g., SNP)	Region targeted <sup>c</sup>	Participants tested		
					Cohort O1	Cohort O2	Cohort A
<i>CYP2D6</i>							
*2, *17, *29, *41	RFLP or TaqMan	rs16947	C>T	2851	Yes	Yes	No
*3	RFLP or TaqMan	rs35742686	A-del	2550	Yes	Yes	Yes
*4	RFLP or TaqMan	rs3892097	G>A	1847	Yes	Yes	Yes
*6	RFLP or TaqMan	rs5030655	T-del	1708	Yes	Yes	Yes
*7	RFLP or TaqMan	rs5030867	A>C	2936	Yes	Yes	No
*8, *14	RFLP	rs5030865	G>T G>A	1759	A subset	No	No
*9	TaqMan	rs5030656	AAG-del	2616	No	No	Yes
*4, *10, *36	RFLP or TaqMan	rs1065852	C>T	100	Yes	Yes	Yes

Allele <sup>a</sup>	Genotyping approach used	rs ID <sup>b</sup>	Genetic variation (e.g., SNP)	Region targeted <sup>c</sup>	Participants tested		
					Cohort O1	Cohort O2	Cohort A
*11	RFLP or TaqMan	rs201377835	G>C	882	A subset <sup>d</sup>	A subset	No <sup>e</sup>
*17	RFLP or TaqMan	rs28371706	C>T	1022	Yes	Yes	Yes
*29	RFLP or TaqMan	rs59421388	G>A	3184	Yes	Yes	Yes
*41	RFLP or TaqMan	rs28371725	G>A	2989	Yes	Yes	Yes
*5	XL-PCR or TaqMan <sup>f</sup>	N/A	Gene deletion		A subset	A subset	Yes
<i>xN</i>	XL-PCR or TaqMan <sup>g</sup>	N/A	Gene duplication or multiplication		Yes	Yes	Yes
*36	RFLP or TaqMan	N/A	Exon 9 conversion		A subset	A subset	Yes
*13	XL-PCR or TaqMan	N/A	<i>CYP2D7-2D6</i> hybrid genes		No	Yes	Yes
<i>CYP2C19</i>							
*2	TaqMan	rs4244285	G>A	c.681	Yes	Yes	Yes
*3	TaqMan	rs4986893	G>A	c.636	Yes	Yes	Yes
*4	TaqMan	rs28399504	A>G	c.1	Yes	Yes	No
*17	TaqMan	rs12248560	C>T	g. -806	Yes	Yes	Yes

<sup>a</sup> Some single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) are part of multiple allele definitions (haplotypes) and may occur on alleles not shown here. The table lists only those alleles identified.

<sup>b</sup> rs IDs are not available for gene deletions, duplications, or conversions.

<sup>c</sup> Position coordinates are for *CYP2D6\*1* reference sequence NG\_008376.3. Allele definitions are as described by the Pharmacogene Variation Consortium at [www.PharmVar.org](http://www.PharmVar.org).

<sup>d</sup> For cohort O, participants positive for 2850T (variant), but negative for SNPs identifying \*17, \*29, or \*41 were selected for testing for the presence of the rare \*11 allele in cohorts O1 and O2, and the rare \*8 and \*14 alleles in cohort O1. Further, long-range polymerase chain reaction (XL-PCR) was performed on all cohort O samples to detect the presence of a gene duplication or multiplication (*xN*). All samples with an initial homozygous genotyping result were also tested by XL-PCR for the presence of the *CYP2D6*\*5 gene deletion. Participants carrying the 100C>T SNP (i.e., were heterozygous C/T or homozygous T/T) were selected for testing for the presence of the *CYP2D7*-derived exon 9 conversion indicative of \*36. For cohort O1, the presence of the exon 9 conversion was tested by restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) analysis; for cohort O2, by a quantitative multiplex PCR method described elsewhere<sup>1</sup>. All samples were tested by XL-PCR for the presence of Fragment B, which targets the intergenic region between duplicated gene copies. Fragment B is only amplified if a duplication event is present, and the additional gene copy has a *CYP2D6*-derived downstream structure. For example, *CYP2D6*\*1*xN*, \*2*xN*, \*4*xN* will amplify fragment B, while \*36+\*10 will not. All samples positive for Fragment B were selected for testing using Fragment D (an XL-PCR fragment encompassing the entire duplicated gene unit). Fragment D was amplified and subsequently genotyped to determine which allele was duplicated or multiplied, to discriminate between *CYP2D6*\*1*xN*, \*2*xN*, \*4*xN*, etc. This fragment is amplified regardless of whether the duplication event has a *CYP2D6* or *2D7*-derived downstream region.

<sup>e</sup> The following were not genotyped for all cohorts due to their low population frequencies: *CYP2D6*\*7, \*8, \*11, \*13, \*14, and *CYP2C19*\*4.

<sup>f</sup> TaqMan copy number variation (CNV) analysis performed for cohort A used assay IDs: Hs00010001\_cn (targeting *CYP2D6* exon 9), Hs04083572\_cn (*CYP2D6* intron 2), and an RNaseP control. All copy number assays were performed in quadruplicate.

<sup>g</sup> Ambiguous duplication events were resolved by amplifying the upstream duplicated gene, as described in Gaedigk *et al.*<sup>2</sup>, and genotyping of key allele-defining variants with Sanger sequencing on nested PCR templates.

1. Gaedigk, A., Twist, G. P. & Leeder, J. S. *CYP2D6*, *SULT1A1* and *UGT2B17* copy number variation: quantitative detection by multiplex PCR. *Pharmacogenomics* **13**, 91–111 (2012).
2. Gaedigk, A. *et al.* Cytochrome P4502D6 (*CYP2D6*) gene locus heterogeneity: Characterization of gene duplication events. *Clin. Pharmacol. Ther.* **81**, 242–251 (2007).

**Title:** A cross-sectional study of the relationship between *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* variations and depression symptoms, for women taking SSRIs during pregnancy

**Authors and Affiliations:** Catriona Hippman<sup>1</sup>, Caitlin Slomp<sup>1</sup>, Emily Morris<sup>1</sup>, Rolan Batallones<sup>1</sup>, Angela Inglis<sup>1</sup>, Prescilla Carrion<sup>1</sup>, Ursula Brain<sup>1</sup>, Michelle Higginson<sup>1</sup>, Galen E. B. Wright<sup>3</sup>, Lynda G. Balneaves<sup>3</sup>, Deirdre Ryan<sup>1</sup>, Corey Nislow<sup>1</sup>, Colin J. D. Ross<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Gaedigk<sup>2</sup>, Tim F. Oberlander<sup>1</sup>, Jehannine Austin<sup>1</sup>

(1) University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, BC, Canada

(2) Children's Mercy Kansas City and University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO, U.S.A.

(3) University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

**Corresponding author:**

Jehannine Austin,

UBC Departments of Psychiatry and Medical Genetics

Rm A3-127, 3rd Floor-Translational Lab Building, 938 W28th Ave, Vancouver, BC., V5Z 4H4

Tel.: +1 604 875 2000 x5943

fax: +1 604 875 3871

e-mail: [jehannine.austin@ubc.ca](mailto:jehannine.austin@ubc.ca)

**Journal name:**

Archives of Women's Mental Health

## Supplemental results

Subsequent exploratory analyses revealed no significant differences between metabolizer groups for standardized daily dose ( $H(3)=1.88, p=.60$ ), maternal weight ( $H(3)=.67, p=.88$ ), or gestational age ( $H(3)=2.86, p=.41$ ). There was also no statistically significant difference between EPDS scores across the four metabolizer groups for either cohort individually (Cohort A:  $H(2)=.90, p=.64$ ; Cohort O: ( $H(3)=.95, p=.81$ )). Further, there was no statistically significant difference between EPDS scores across the four metabolizer groups when groups were re-categorized according to updated guidelines (Caudle et al., 2020) with *CYP2D6* genotypes translated into activity scores of 1 being classified as IM (rather than NM)( $H(3)=.67, p=.88$ ).

In an exploratory two-group comparison of 1) normal metabolizers (NM) and ultrarapid metabolizers (UM) to 2) intermediate metabolizers (IM) and poor metabolizers (PM), as done by Ververs et al., (2009) and Berard et al., (2017), there was no significant difference between EPDS scores of these two groups ( $U = 485, p = .766$ ). In a further comparison of these two predicted metabolizer groups, there was no statistically significant difference between the percentage of participants scoring above an EPDS cut-off of 13 (as used by Berard et al., (2017)), with 22.1% in the NM/UM group and 13.3% in the IM/PM group ( $p = .725$  - Fisher's exact test).

In an exploratory sub-analysis of the impact of *CYP2D6* variations for all participants (including those taking citalopram, escitalopram, sertraline, and paroxetine), we found no statistically significant differences when comparing EPDS scores across either the three available predicted metabolizer groups (there were no participants identified in the *CYP2D6* UM group;  $H(2)= 4.11, p= .13$ ), or across the two predicted metabolizer groups (NM/UM vs. IM/PM;  $U = 356, p = .08$ ).

In an exploratory sub-analysis of the impact of *CYP2D6* variations for only participants taking paroxetine, we found no statistically significant differences when comparing EPDS scores across either the three available predicted metabolizer groups (there were no participants identified in the *CYP2D6* UM group;  $H(2) = 2.73$ ,  $p = .26$ ), or across the two predicted metabolizer groups (NM/UM vs. IM/PM;  $U = 49$ ,  $p = .34$ ).

In an exploratory sub-analysis restricted to only *CYP2C19* variations for participants taking citalopram, escitalopram, or sertraline (participants taking paroxetine excluded because *CYP2C19* isn't in the metabolic pathway for paroxetine), we found no statistically significant differences when comparing EPDS scores across either the four predicted metabolizer groups ( $H(3) = 1.48$ ,  $p = .69$ ), or across the two predicted metabolizer groups (NM/UM vs. IM/PM) ( $U = 191$ ,  $p = .72$ ).