Bass Connections 2014: Help Babies Avoid Smoke



Environmental Effects on Cognitive Development | Brain and Society

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Pregnant women's exposure to environmental tobacco smoke can cause changes in the DNA of their children, leading to an increased risk for the development of ADHD. To combat this issue, we created a science primer to be distributed to populations most affected by smoke exposure.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

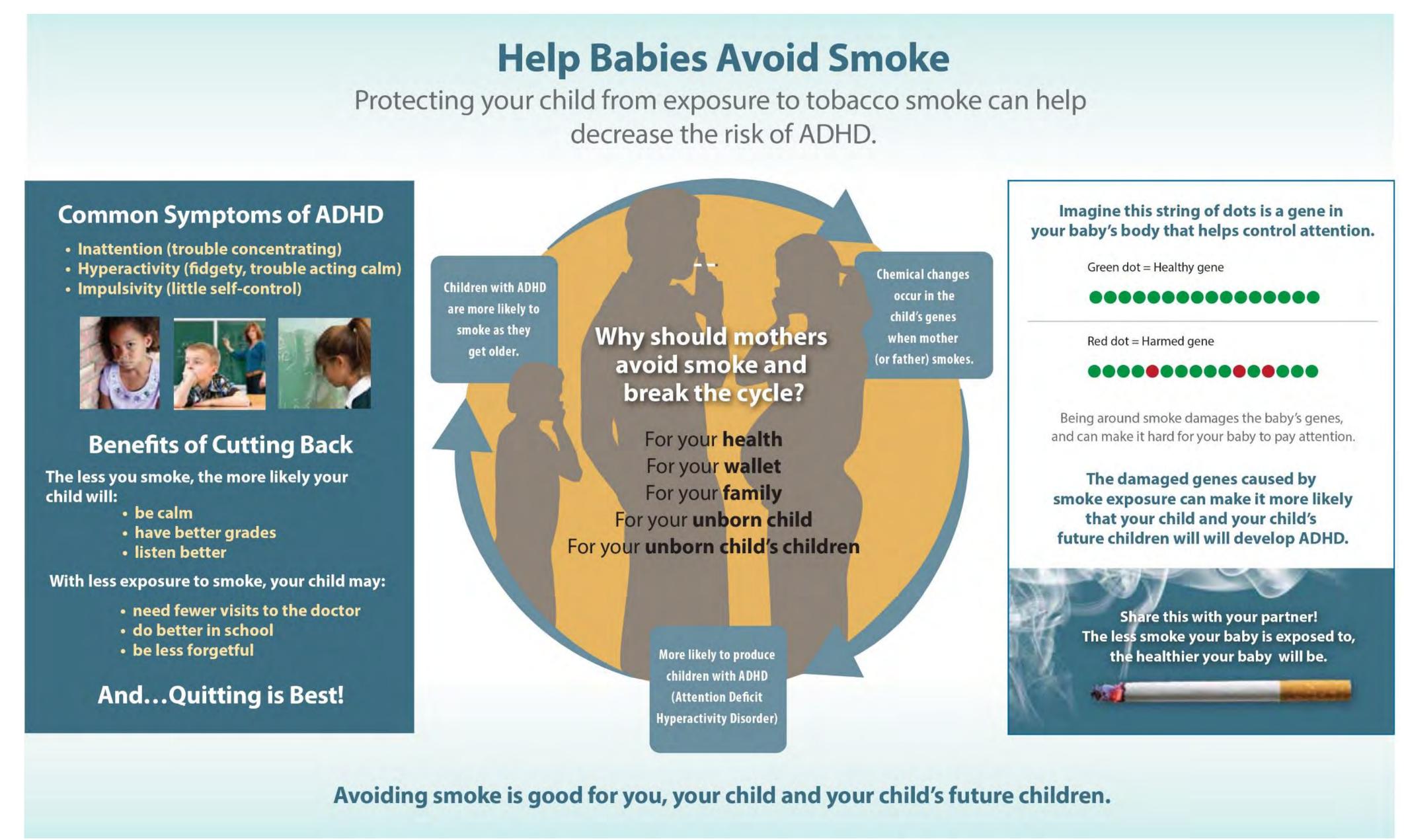
- Synthesize information on epigenetics and smoke exposure into a science primer
- Interview and collect data on the effectiveness of the infographic from the target population and local stakeholders
- Develop interactive contest to engage local population

METHODOLOGY

- Compile research on epigenetics and its role in ADHD development after exposure to smoke in utero
- Modeled primer after already established science infographics
- Distributed primer at local health clinics

The impact of the infographic will be assessed through questionnaires distributed to target populations.

INFOGRAPHIC



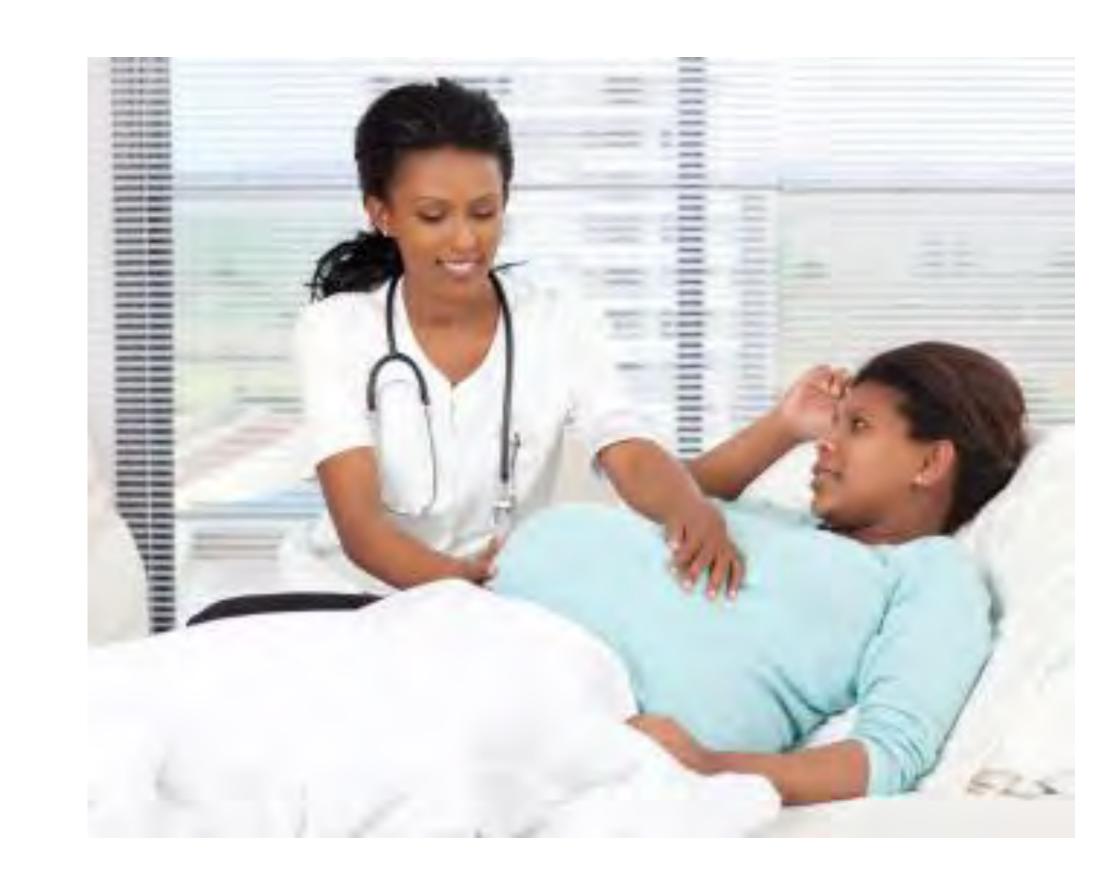
EVALUATION

Questions for our focus group included:

- What on the pamphlet would make you most likely to avoid smoke while pregnant (or if you become pregnant)?
- How would you summarize the message of the pamphlet in your own words?
- How well did we explain the benefits of avoiding smoke?
- How did the image on the front of the pamphlet make you feel?

INSIGHTS

Importance of translating science related research to a level accessible by the general public



The infographic will be distributed to local health clinics to inform pregnant women of the risks of smoke exposure.

CONCLUSIONS

- Epigenetic effects of smoke exposure can affect one's children and grandchildren
- Many factors, artistic and educational, contribute to the development of a successful science primer