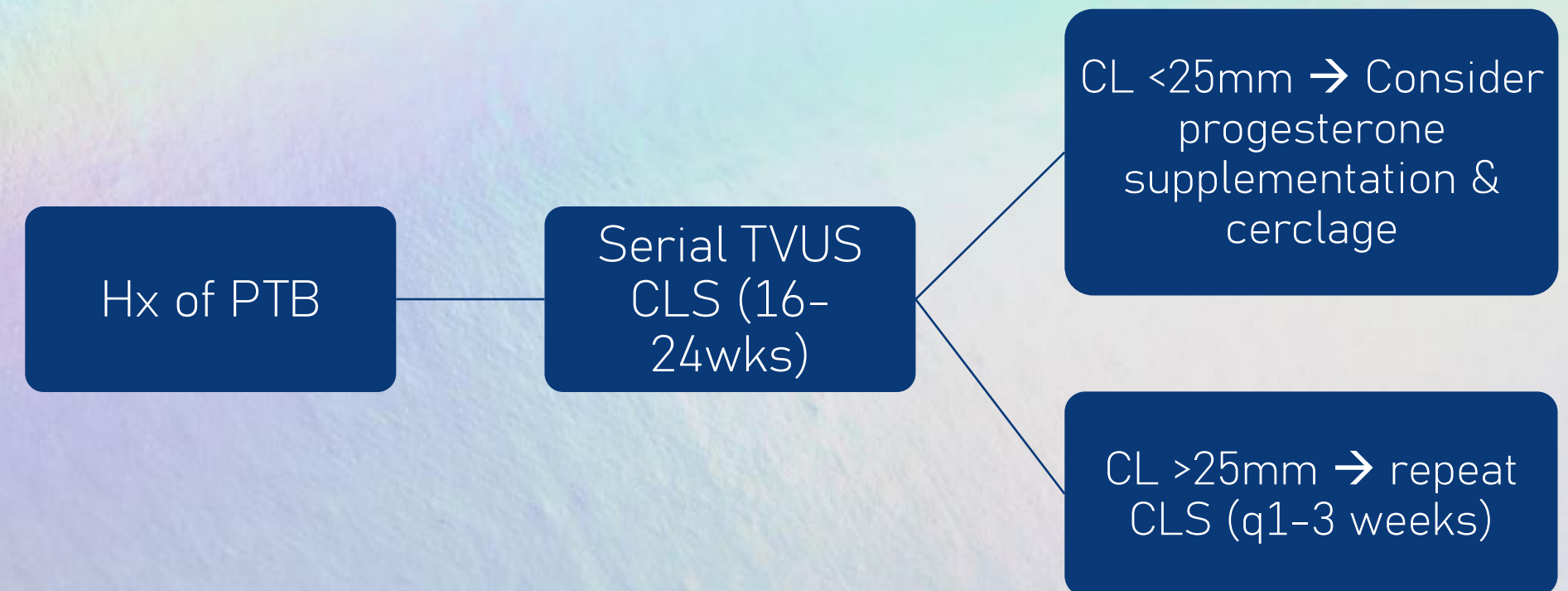


Prenatal Care & Cervical Insufficiency Surveillance Stratified by Race: A Single-Center Retrospective Study

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Background & Hypothesis

- PTB risk assessment: history of PTB & cervical length screening (CLS)¹



- Do levels of care (i.e., TVUS CLS, cerclage placement) provided to pregnant women with a history indicating cervical insufficiency differ among race and ethnicity?

¹Celik, E., To, M., Gajewka, K., Smith, G. C. S., & Nicolaides, K. H. (2008). Cervical Length and Obstetric History Predict Spontaneous Preterm Birth: Development and Validation of a Model to Provide Individualized Risk Assessment. *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol*, 31(5), 549-554. <https://doi.org/10.1002/uog.5333>

Study Design & Methods

- Retrospective chart review of patients who delivered in 2023
- Exclusion Criteria
 - Patients with initial prenatal visits >24 weeks of gestation
 - Patients with abdominal cerclages

Results

- 2757 patients delivered in 2023, & 2196 had an initial prenatal visit before 24 weeks gestation
- Of these patients, 2106 patients met inclusion criteria

Variable	White (N=1108)	Black (N=326)	Hispanic (N=672)	Black vs White P value	Hispanic vs White P value
Gestational age of initial prenatal appointment (weeks) (median (IQR))	10.0 (5.0-12.5)	11.5 (9.5-15.0)	11.5 (9.0-15.0)	<0.001	<0.001
Initial ultrasound type				0.001	<0.001
<i>Transabdominal</i>	276 (26%)	109 (35%)	224 (34%)		
<i>Transvaginal</i>	794 (74%)	201 (65%)	431 (66%)		
Gestational age at first ultrasound exam (weeks) (median (IQR))	9.5 (8.0-12.0)	10.5 (8.5-13.5)	10.5 (8.5-13.5)	<0.001	<0.001
Emergency department first location of ultrasound exam (yes)	74 (7%)	52 (16%)	92 (14%)	<0.001	<0.001
History of preterm delivery (yes)	92 (8%)	37 (11%)	55 (8%)	0.09	0.93
<i>Received progesterone (yes)</i>	36 (39%)	14 (40%)	22 (40%)	0.93	0.92
<i>Received serial transvaginal ultrasounds (yes)</i>	15 (16%)	10 (29%)	11 (21%)	0.13	0.52
Cervical length screening indicated by history (yes)	63 (6%)	24 (7%)	34 (5%)	0.27	0.57
<i>Received transvaginal ultrasound (yes)</i>	23 (36%)	14 (58%)	12 (35%)	0.07	0.91
<i>Cerclage indicated (yes)</i>	1 (4%)	2 (14%)	0	0.54	1.00
History indicated cerclage placement (yes)	2 (0%)	3 (1%)	1 (0%)	0.08	1.00

Conclusion & Discussion

- Takeaways:
 - Women of color have delayed access to PNC
 - Women of color are more likely to seek PNC in the ED
 - Recommended levels of care are not consistently promoted, but do not vary among race or ethnicity
- Future Directions:
 - Barriers to recommended levels of care
 - Improved PTB risk identifiers