

Title: CIVILIAN AND MILITARY MOTHERS EVALUATE A MOTHERS' RESOURCE GUIDE

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Context: Motherhood is a demanding role in either a civilian or a military community and family/community support is needed to be successful in this role.

Study Objectives: To examine the similarities and differences reported by civilian and military mothers who evaluated a Mothers' Resource Guide Pamphlet (MRGP) for mothers in the State of Ohio created by one of the authors (AH).

Study Design: Participants completed an evaluation of the MRGP. Each MRGP included both local and statewide resources. Each two page evaluation included a validated 3-item depression screen.

Setting: Military and civilian pediatrics clinics.

Participants: Civilian (N=996) and military (N=100) mothers from the practices of Southwestern Ohio Ambulatory Research Network (SOAR-Net) clinicians. 234 mothers either refused to participate or submitted incomplete evaluations and were not included in the analysis.

Study Intervention: None

Outcome Measures: None

Results: Military mothers (MM) were older (36.6+/-8.1 years vs 29.7+/-8.4 years, $p<0.0001$), better educated (83% vs 49% college graduates, $p<0.0001$), had fewer positive depression screens (17% vs 30%, $p=0.007$), and were more likely to be married (91% vs 46%, $p<0.0001$) compared to civilian mothers (CM). Over 90% of mothers from both subgroups found the MRGP to be a high quality guide that was easy to read and "addresses important topics". However, CM were more likely to "strongly agree" that the MRGP "will be helpful to me" (26.2% vs 11.0%, $p<0.0001$) and "plan to call any of the numbers" (25.0% vs 7%, $p<0.0001$) compared to MM.

Conclusions: CM were more likely than MM to "strongly agree" that the services available in the MRGP would be helpful to them. Further research should examine whether this difference between CM and MM is related to the variation in demographic characteristics of the two subgroups or to services already available to MM that make other community resources less relevant for them.