

Danger signs in pregnancy and determinants of a referral -comparison of a government and private setting

Bhavna Sharma

Lady hardinge Medical College

Email: bhavnasharma13@hotmail.com

Objective

To study the response of pregnant women towards danger signs of obstetric complications attending a government tertiary care and a private hospital in Delhi and its associated factors.

Study Design

Cross-sectional study. Setting: A government tertiary and a private health care hospital in Delhi. Participants: 200 booked pregnant women visiting antenatal clinics of previous mentioned setting (100 from each).

Tools

Pre-tested Structured Questionnaire to know patient socioeconomic status, attending government or private setting, availability of conveyance and of reliable attendant and response towards danger signs of obstetric complications.

Statistical Analysis

Proportion. Results: The study revealed that 29 % of pregnant women will not visit the hospital in emergency when bleeding per vaginum occurs.32% will consult during

scheduled visits on symptoms of early stage hypertensive disorder symptoms like headache, blurring of vision and swelling of feet or 11 % will even treat by home remedies. However 99% considered fits as critical. Response was significantly poorer in a government setting where paucity of mode of transport 14% , lack of attendant 56% were rampant and low income(45%) were mainly cited . Local dais/ Anganwadi was preferred first referral in government setting by 12 % and self medication was rampant in private setting 34 %.

Conclusions

A significant proportion of pregnant women will consult late for signs like bleeding per vagina attending government setting. There is a need to offer health promotional campaigns for the prevention of these treatable life-threatening obstetric complications.

Keywords

Maternal response, signs of obstetric complications, government and private hospital