



Assessment of Pregnant Women Knowledge Attending Maternal and Child Health Care Centers at El Minia City About Teratogenicity of Drugs During Pregnancy

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Abstract:

Drugs intake during pregnancy may adversely affect developing embryo or fetus. These drugs are known as teratogen. So to be safe, only drugs that are absolutely necessary should be used with permission of knowledgeable practitioner. Aim: to assess level of women's knowledge about teratogenicity of drugs used during pregnancy. Research design: a cross sectional study. Material & methods: this study was conducted in Maternal and Child Health care Centers at Minia city. The study included 300 pregnant women, an interview sheet was used by the researcher to assess socio-demographic characteristics, obstetrical characteristics, and knowledge about drug intake during pregnancy. Results: the main finding of the study were exploring that more than half of the study sample had inadequate and poor knowledge regarding drug intake during pregnancy and only 28.7% of sample had adequate knowledge especially in relation to the risk time for taking drugs. The most common reasons for taking drugs was common cold 26.9%, drugs, 18.3% to relieve headache and 45.2% of sample take drugs for heartburn. In this study, it was also found that certain factors seemed to affect women's knowledge regarding drug intake during pregnancy such as illiteracy, being housewife, and young age. Conclusion: women lack essential knowledge regarding drugs intake during pregnancy. These findings indicate need to inform pregnant women about dangers of drugs use during pregnancy especially during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. Physician and nurses should play a key role in communicating these risks.

Keywords:

drugs teratogenicity, pregnant women, women knowledge

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