

Module: Introduction to Research (BMHP5005)



Assessment 2: Viva Voce

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Topic: Infant's Health Introduction

The understanding of negative outcome of smoking during pregnancy is a doorway to raise awareness among expecting women to protect them and their babies from the nuisances of Tobacco.

Aim: To analyze the impact of smoking during pregnancy on infant's health.

Objectives: to explore the consequences of smoking during pregnancy on unborn babies.

Methods

Resources: 3 electronic articles

Database: UWTSD online Library, PubMed, Google Scholar

Keywords: "Pregnancy and Smoking", "Cigarette/Tobacco exposure and Infant Health", "Pregnancy planning and smoking", "Baby growth and nicotine".

Including Criteria: Pregnant women, smoking pregnant women, fetuses, new-born babies.

Excluding criteria: non pregnant women, non smoking women and children one year plus.

Literature Review

Author(s), title, and year of publication	Aim of study	Methods and Sample size and characteristics	Summary of main findings
Anika Flower et al. Pregnancy planning, smoking behaviour during pregnancy, and neonatal outcome. Year of pub (2013)	To investigate the independent effects of pregnancy planning and smoking during pregnancy on neonatal outcome.	Collecting information from questionnaires on 18,819 singleton babies and their families from their main carers when the babies were around nine months old. From two group of women those who planned and those who did not plan.	Planning a pregnancy and avoiding smoking during pregnancy has clear, independent, health benefits for babies. Quitting or reducing the amount smoked during pregnancy can reduce the risk of low birthweight.
Mariana Caricati Kataoka et al. Smoking during pregnancy and harm reduction in birth weight. Year of pub (2018)	To analyse the effect of different intensities of smoking on birth weight of the newborn.	A cross-sectional study was adopted to collect data by interview during hospitalization for delivery from all pregnant women between January and June 2012.	If a pregnant woman is unable to quit smoking, she should be encourage to reduce consumption to less than six cigarettes per day.
Devasuda Anblagan et al. Maternal Smoking during pregnancy and foetal organ growth. Year of pub: 2013	To study whether maternal cigarette smoking during pregnancy is associated with alterations in the growth of foetal lungs, kidneys, liver, brain, and placenta.	Each foetus was scanned with Magnetic Resonance Imaging at 22-27 weeks and 33-38 weeks gestational age. 26 healthy pregnant women were recruited 13 current smokers and 13 non-smokers.	Maternal smoking is associated with reduces growth of foetal brain, lung and kidney, this effect persists even when the volumes are corrected for maternal education, gestational age, and foetal sex. As expected, the fetuses exposed to maternal smoking are smaller in size. Similarly, placental volumes are smaller in smoking versus non-smoking pregnant women.

Results

Articles well structured

Aims et objectives clearly stated

Ethical considerations respected

Qualitative methodology appropriate

Gaps: self reporting, representative sample and some missing data.

Themes Identified

Preterm delivery

Birth weight

Education

Premature infants

Socioeconomic status and ethnicity

Anika Flower, et al., (2013)

Mariana Caricati, et al., (2018)

Devasuda Anblagan, et al., (2013)

Discussion

- ▶ **Preterm delivery:** giving birth early has a numerous consequences including learning disabilities and visual and hearing problems (WHO, 2018).
- ▶ **Low birthweight:** Low birth weight is a preventable public health problem. It is an important determinant of child survival and development (World Bank, 2021).
- ▶ **Premature infants:** premature babies, especially those born very early, often have complicated medical problems. Typically, complications of prematurity vary. But the earlier your baby is born, the higher the risk of complications (Mayo Clinic, 2021).
- ▶ **Socioeconomic status:** Women of lower socioeconomic groups more commonly smoke before, during and after pregnancy, according to a University of Queensland study (University of Queensland, 1998).

Conclusion

In conclusion, the results of this study show that smoking during pregnancy has several consequences on unborn babies, including complications at delivery, premature birth, and low birth weight. Also, the study shows that, this smoking behaviour is associated with level of education and socioeconomic status of women who smoke before, during and after pregnancy.

References

- ▶ Anil. K, et al, (2020). *Low birth weight and its associated risk factors*. (Online). Available on <https://www.journals.plos.org/>
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- ▶ Devasuda. A, et al,. (2013). *Maternal smoking during pregnancy and foetal organ growth*. (Online). Available on <https://www.plosone.org/>
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- ▶ Mayo Clinic (2021). *Premature birth*. (Online). Available on <https://www.mayoclinic.org/>
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- ▶ The World Bank (2021). *Education*. (Online). Available on <https://www.worldbank.org/>
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