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Women's knowledge and attitude towards pregnancy in a high-income developing country

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Objective: The aim of this study was to determine the knowledge and attitudes among women in a high-income developing country regarding pregnancy and antenatal care.

Methods: Women who participated in the study were asked to complete a questionnaire. The questionnaire enquired about age, level of education, Internet use, marital status, and employment. It also included questions regarding their knowledge of ultrasound, the effects of sexual activity and other exercise during pregnancy, breast feeding, and premature delivery. The collected data were subjected to statistical analysis using SPSS.

Results: The total number of women included in this study was 205. A total of 115 women (56.1%) thought that the most important benefit of ultrasound was to discover fetal abnormalities. Only 75 (36.6%) thought that regular exercise was not harmful during pregnancy. Of the total respondents 116 (56.6%) of 205 thought that sex during pregnancy was harmful to the fetus or did not know. Age ($P=0.001$), marital status ($P=0.001$) and working status ($P=0.005$) were found to significantly affect their knowledge.

Conclusion: Knowledge about pregnancy among Emirati women is low. There is a need for effective prenatal classes that focus on educating women about issues related to pregnancy and antenatal care.

Biography

Lamia K Alsenaidi is a 6th year Medical student in United Arab Emirates University/College of Medicine and Health sciences. The expected date of her graduation is May 2016. She has published 2 papers in reputed journals and she is currently working in a new research about cancer awareness.

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