Impact of Sexually Transmitted Diseases in pregnancy: knowledge of pregnant women

Caixeta Camila Batista (BR) [1], De Freitas Efigenia Aparecida Maciel (BR) [2]

Context: the immunological alterations that occur during pregnancy, linked with the usual attitude of not use any barrier contraceptive method in this period correspond to an increased risk of contracting a sexually transmitted diseases that can generate gynecological, obstetrical and fetal complications

Objective: evaluate the pregnant women knowledge about the possible complications of sexually transmitted diseases during pregnancy and identify the use of barrier methods of contraception (condom, cervical cap or diaphragm)

Method: interview pregnant women who perform obstetric care (prenatal) in Obstetrics Services of a University Hospital in Brazil, between July 2013 and February 2014

Patients: 247 pregnant women of all age groups and all socioeconomic levels, who live in the city of Uberlandia and region, Brazil

Intervention: health education activities and appropriate prenatal care

Main Outcome Measure: it was evident that the women in the sample have little knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases and possibly, because of this, the majority does not make regular use of barrier contraceptives during pregnancy

Results: in 247 women interviewed, 180 (72.8%) denied using any barrier method of contraception regularly, 66 (26.7%) said they use condoms regularly, 1 (0.4%) affirmed diaphragm use before pregnancy; 176 (71.2%) confirmed keep sexually active during pregnancy, among these, 6 (3.4%), reported using condoms for sexual relations during pregnancy. In terms of possible complications during pregnancy, 63 (25.5%) reported not knowing any consequence that STDs can bring in gynecological and obstetric context

Conclusion: the small number of women who confirmed condom use during pregnancy increases the responsibility of health professionals on the need for guidance and clarification about the risks of STDs during pregnancy and prevention methods available