

## ABSTRACT

**Objective:** To ascertain the reliability of fetal cardiotocography (C.T.G) in predicting baby's condition at birth.

**Methods(Study Design) :** It is a Descriptive observational study to find out the reliability of fetal cardiotocography in predicting baby's condition at birth. The study was carried out at Ward 3,5,15 and 16 De Soysa Maternity Hospital and Ward 25 N.C.T.H.

1246 pregnant mothers between the P.O.A of 37 to 41 weeks were included in this study.

Babies were considered having fetal distress

- 1)when Apgar score <7 at 5mts of birth
- 2)when baby needed I.P.P.V soon after birth
- 3)when presence of moderate or thick meconium at the onset of labour
- 4)when appearance of meconium during labour

**Results :**

Overall sensitivity of C.T.G for an abnormal tracing is 57.6% (sensitivity of CTG for an abnormal tracing in High risk mother is 58.4% , in a Low risk mothers it is 40% )

Overall specificity of C.T.G for a normal tracing is 90.5% ( specificity of CTG for a normal tracing in High risk mother is- 92.6%, in a Low risk mother it is-81.9%)

Positive predictive value of CTG is 45.7%

Negative predictive value of CTG is 93.9%

**Conclusion:**

This study shows C.T.G has a high incidence of false positive and low incidence of false negative. Although C.T.G has a low sensitivity it is relatively more sensitive to high risk cases. These findings suggest that the current overdependence on fetal monitoring by C.T.G alone should be examined and that other reliable indicators should be sought.