

ABSTRACT

- Rationale:** Are teenagers a high risk group? It has been suggested that teenage pregnancies are not as hazardous as thought to be earlier.
- Objective:** To compare the teenage pregnancy out come with the control Group of 20-25 years.
- Design & Setting:** A prospective observational study carried out in teaching hospital, Kandy and general hospital, Polonnaruwa.
- Subject & Methods:** Outcome measures anaemia, pre-eclampsia, and preterm labour, low birthweight and mode of delivery in teenage group (13-19 years, n = 350) compared with the control group (20-25 years, n = 539) using a pretested form. Data was collected during a period of one year commencing from July 2003.
- Results:** There is no significant difference in anaemia (OR = 0.942, 95% CI 0.34 – 2.63, p = 0.91), pre-eclampsia (OR = 0.76, 95% CI 0.36 – 1.60, p = 0.46) in teenage group compared to control group. There is no significant difference in interventional delivery (OR = 0.69, 95% CI 0.46 – 1.04, p = 0.07). There is a significant difference in preterm delivery (OR = 2.07, 95% CI 1.26 – 3.40, p < 0.0001) and low birthweight (OR = 2.45, 95% CI 1.68 – 3.64, p < 0.0001) in teenage group compared to control group.
- Conclusion:** Teenage pregnancy has a significant risk of preterm delivery and low birthweight babies. Anaemia, pre-eclampsia and mode of delivery are the same in both groups.