ABSTRACT

Introduction

Teenage pregnancy could be defined as a pregnancy in a girl or a woman aged 10-19 years. Adolescent women face increased risks during pregnancy and childbirth.

Objectives

This research was designed to compare the pregnancy outcome between the teenage primi and non teenage primi mothers (<35 years) in Sri Lanka with a view on educational and financial backgrounds.

Materials and methods

Ward 5 and 6 of Teaching Hospital, Kandy was selected as the setting. To avoid the influence of parity and multiple pregnancies on the birth weight of newborn, only primigravidae with singleton pregnancies were included in the study as index cases. The elderly primigravidae (>35 years of age) and those with multiple pregnancies were excluded from the study. Study period commenced from10/05/2007 to 10/07/2008. Data was collected by the author using structured format from the Bed Head Tickets (BHT) and analyzed using SPSS statistical

software package.

Results

In the study sample mean birth weight of the babies of teenage mothers was 2.67kg (n=121, SD=0.38). Mean birth weight of babies of non teenage mothers was 2.82kg (n=209, SD=0.050). On average teenage pregnant women delivered at 37.7weeks (n=121,SD=1.86) compared with non teenagers who delivered at mean POA 38.04(n=209,SD=1.71) weeks.

From the study population (teenage) 13.2% were having PIH which was similar to the percentage of non teenage primi mothers having PIH (13.3%)

Non parametric testing revealed an Odds ratio of 1.015 (95% confidence interval 0.525-1.963) which failed to show statistically significant difference.

Out of 121 teenage pregnancies 21 (17.3%) were small for gestational age. Among non teenage pregnancies 31(14.8%) were SGA.

Applying non parametric test revealed an odds ratio of 1.206(95%CI 0.658 - 2.210) which doesn't show statistically significant difference in non teenage pregnancy compared with teenage pregnancies with regards to SGA.