



Abstract

Pregnancy outcome has effects on both the mother and the foetus. Adverse maternal outcome include pregnancy related complications and medical complications and even death. There are socioeconomic and occupational factors that influence on pregnancy outcome especially in less developed countries like Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is highly dependent on the garment and textile industry for both employment and foreign exchange earnings. This descriptive study is carried out in a garment factory in Pannala Medical Officer of Health division with the objective to describe socio demographic pattern and social problems of pregnant mothers and to describe the prevalence of pregnancy related medical problems.

Eighty nine mothers were interviewed using a structured questionnaire. Majority (66.3%) were in their first pregnancy. There were only very few number of respondents expressed that they are experiencing difficulties in transport or working. Except for 25.9% of respondents, all others were receiving support from their family members in household activities. Sleep received by respondents was adequate and satisfactory. Majority watched television as a recreational activity. However, there were no much varieties of recreational activities.

Attending ANC by respondents was fairly satisfactory. There were 88.8% of respondents who attended ANC at 12 weeks of gestation or before. During the pregnancy, there were only 11 respondents (12.4%) who had medical problems. There was only one respondent who developed pregnancy induced hypertension (PIH) which provided a prevalence figure of 1.1% for the study sample. In summary, respondents in this study sample are financially stable, receiving a good primary health care service and are relatively free of medical and social problems.

Organising antenatal services at the working place itself at least in those places where a large number of pregnant mothers work would be beneficial in obtaining a good pregnancy outcome.

To gain a better knowledge on social problems of working mothers large studies with more representative sample is recommended.