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17TH ANNUAL CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH DAYS

Nutrition for a Changing World

The Science of Nourishing the Next Generation

CHRD 2021: Abstract & Poster Submission Form

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Research Category:

- Basic Science
- Clinical
- Community Health / Policy

What was your role in the project?

- Design
- Perform Experiments
- Analyze Data
- Write Abstract

Presenter Status:

- Undergraduate Students
- Masters Student
- PhD Student
- Post-Doctoral Fellows
- Residents
- Non-Trainee

Title

Future health risks after pregnancy complications and communication between specialists and primary care providers: a cross-sectional study.

Background

Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy (HDP) and gestational diabetes (GDM) increase the risk of future pregnancy and health complications for mothers and their offspring. However, little is known about access to primary care providers (PCPs) and counseling about future risks for these families.

Objective

Our aim was to determine access to PCPs and communication of risks.

Methods

This was a cross-sectional study of pregnancies at HSC (2019-2020). All pregnancies with HDP and/or GDM were identified using delivery record books, and birth events and early neonatal outcomes were collected using standardized data collection sheets. Discharge summaries were then reviewed to evaluate communication between specialists and PCPs, and to calculate the proportion of high-risk patients with access to PCPs. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to compare outcomes between groups. Subgroup analysis of outcomes prior to and during COVID was also performed.

Results

452 pregnancies were eligible for inclusion. Overall, 32.6% of high-risk patients did not have a PCP, although this number improved slightly during COVID to 26.1%. 12.9% of high-risk patients were recommended to have closer follow-up and only 4% were recommended to have outpatient investigations during the postpartum period. No discharge summaries mentioned future pregnancy complications or risk of long-term health complications for mothers or offspring.

Conclusion

Almost one-third of high-risk patients with risk of long-term health complications following pregnancy do not have a PCP, and for others, communication about these risks is lacking. Targeted improvement in discharge communication would increase awareness of long-term health risks and enhance prevention strategies for mothers and children.

Authors

- For each author, please click "[+] Add Item" and provide the author's information

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