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Potential factors of late pregnancy consultation among pregnant women of Biyemassi District Health of Yaounde, Cameroon

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Introduction: Whether the maternal mortality rate in Cameroon is one of the highest in the world, early follow-up and the number of antenatal visits significantly influence the outcome of pregnancies. We conducted a prospective study to explore and describe the potential factors of late pregnancy consultation in the perspective of enhancing the first term antenatal consultation (ANC) among pregnant women of Biyemassi District Health of Yaounde, Cameroon.

Material & Methods: Community based characteristics of study population was applied in selected health centres to recruit a total of 101 pregnant women who experienced late first term pregnancy consultation and fulfilled all eligible criteria. Additionally, a structured questionnaire covering a range of late ANC factors were investigated.

Results: During the 12 months preceding this study, the prevalence of late ANC among pregnant women in the health district was 62%. Overall, the social profile of the study population was quite similar to the greater population from which selected woman were coming. The risk age of participants estimated less than 16 years old and more than 34 years old. Besides the multiple local barriers, illiteracy was significantly linked with the refusal to be examined by a male health worker. Unwanted pregnancies, the willingness to hide one's pregnancy and, unsuccessful abortion had an additional link with the risky age.

Conclusion: The delay of the first early ANC is a potential limiting factor in the correct monitoring and surveillance and therefore should lead the community healthcare providers to forecast the delivery conditions more accurately including potential complications.

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Influence of men on use of modern contraceptive among men in union in Mukuru Kwa Njenga informal settlement, Kenya

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Kenya has shown great improvement in modern contraceptive use from 32% to 53% in the last decade. However, among the lowest wealth quantile population such as residents of Mukuru Kwa Njenga, use of modern contraceptives has remained low at 29%. Despite male partner opposition being a common reason for non-use of modern methods, most studies focus on female factors. Therefore, this cross-sectional study was aimed at establishing men's factors associated with use of modern contraceptives among men in union in Mukuru Kwa Njenga informal settlement. A total of 398 men were interviewed. The findings of this study demonstrated that men's social demographic characteristics are significantly associated with use of modern contraceptive methods: Age ($P < 0.00$), education level ($P = .007$), marital status ($P < 0.00$), religion ($P < 0.00$) and occupation ($P < 0.00$). Further, men's attitude ($P < 0.00$) and spousal communication ($P < 0.00$) were found to significantly associated to use. However, men's knowledge was found not significantly associated ($P = .340$). In conclusion, use of modern contraceptive methods is affected by socio-demographic factors, attitude and spousal communication while knowledge alone does not influence use. The study recommends that the Kenya Ministry of Health, need to design a strategy for reaching out to men in the lowest wealth quantiles taking into consideration socio-demographic characteristics, attitude, spousal communication and going beyond men's knowledge to promote use.

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