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Survey of relationship between mother's chronic diseases and low birth weight in infants, Ahvaz, South of Iran 2014

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Background: Birth weight is the most important indicator of infant's health and this critical index is directly related to mother's health. Hence, knowledge of maternal chronic disease before and during pregnancy can be considered as an effective factor in maintaining infant ideal weight. These babies are more susceptible to risks such as, disabilities of neurological, respiratory diseases, sudden infant death syndrome. Therefore the Identify and modifying risk factors can control and prevent low birth weight.

Objectives: This study was performed to determine the association between mother's chronic diseases and low birth weight in infants.

Patients and Method: In this descriptive study 1500 infants from 12 health centers in East and West areas of Ahvaz were selected using random cluster sampling method. The developed researcher checklist was used to data gathering. Data were analyzed with SPSS version 20. Using descriptive indexes and Chi-square, t-test and ANOVA while $P \leq 0.05$ was considered as significant.

Results: Prevalence of LBW in Ahvaz from the beginning to the end of the year 2015 has been 9.5%. There is a significant relationship between Cardiovascular disease before pregnancy ($P \leq 0.003$), anemia before pregnancy ($P \leq 0.001$), hypertensive pregnancy ($P \leq 0.001$), urinary tract infection during pregnancy ($P \leq 0.001$), gestational diabetic in mother ($P \leq 0.003$) and LBW.

Conclusion: Our study showed that many mother's chronic disease such as cardiovascular disease, anemia, hypertensive, gestational diabetic and UTI have relationship with LBW. Therefore it seems essential to design and implement a detailed antenatal care program for mothers with chronic disease to reduce LBW, infant mortality and defects.

Key words: Low Birth Weight, maternal chronic diseases, Gestational chronic diseases, Infant, Ahvaz

Biography

Shahnaz Rostami completed my Ph.D at the age of 45 years from Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran. I am head of department pediatric nursing in School of Nursing of Ahvaz Jundishapur University. I have published more than 10 papers in journals.

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