

Pregnant Portuguese women knowledge about obstetric ultrasound



Raquel Fernandes, Rute Santos
Medical Imaging and Radiotherapy Department,
Coimbra Health School, Institute Polytechnic of Coimbra
rutemartinsantos@gmail.com



Introduction

- ❖ Obstetric ultrasound is part of the prenatal care as a diagnostic test, allowing the identification of fetal abnormalities early, through the evaluation of pre-established parameters and when performed at the recommended gestation time.
- ❖ The perception and knowledge of Portuguese pregnant women on obstetric ultrasound diagnosis is something not yet studied and essential for the effectiveness of diagnosis and follow-up of pregnancy, as well as it is essential that pregnant women have an active participation in the change of the National Health Plan in Portugal, revision and extension to 2020.
- ❖ The aim of this study is to evaluate the knowledge and perception of pregnant women on diagnostic ultrasound.

Material and Methods

- ❖ The study was conducted using a questionnaire to 198 pregnant women whose pregnancy surveillance was performed in Portugal.
- ❖ The study was carried out from October to March 2019.
- ❖ Data were recorded and analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS), version 25.

Results

- ❖ The mean age of pregnant women was 30.6±5.0 years.
- ❖ The level of knowledge of pregnant women on diagnostic obstetrical ultrasound was 1%, Insufficient, 14.6%, Adequate, and 84.3%, with a good level of knowledge. However, there are specific questions that presented a high rate of incorrect answers.
- ❖ Regarding the expectations regarding obstetric ultrasound diagnosis, 61.6% of the participants considered that they should perform more ultrasounds during pregnancy, especially during the 2nd and 3rd trimesters of pregnancy.
- ❖ 79.3% of participants indicated that they would like to have more information on obstetric ultrasound available mainly through health professionals and childbirth preparation classes.



Discussion/Conclusion

- Saleh, et al. 2017**
 - ✓ 91.2% of the participants believed that the US procedure is safe
 - ✓ 95.8% of women thought **the main goal** was to assess fetal growth.
 - ✓ 97.5% thought it was also used to evaluate the viability and helps in prenatal diagnosis of congenital anomalies.
 - Gonzaga, et al. 2009**
 - ✓ The participants considered that US could lead to cancer
 - ✓ All women **expressed an interest in learning more** about routine obstetric US and if it would have any effect on them and their baby.
 - Majeed 2017**
 - ✓ 90% of women **knew the importance of performing obstetric US**;
 - ✓ Most of them knew that the goal was to check the baby's growth
 - ✓ Half of them knew that the goal would also be to diagnose chromosomal abnormalities.
- ❖ Most pregnant women demonstrate knowledge regarding the purpose of diagnostic obstetrical ultrasound but lesser knowledge of the parameters it evaluates. It is an important time for pregnant women being most interested in having more information available on obstetric ultrasound diagnosis.

References

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