

ABSTRACT

TITLE : Maternal and fetal outcome of pyrexia in pregnancy beyond 28 weeks of gestation.

PERIOD OF STUDY : March 2016 to August 2016.

INSTITUTION : Governmentt Kilpauk medical college.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES :

Fever in pregnancy is a common clinical problem which increases risk of morbidity of the mother and fetus. We studied the variable medical complications of pregnant women suffering from fever and the possible fetal complications beyond 28 weeks of gestation. We also studied the etiology and prevalence of pyrexia in pregnancy beyond 28 weeks of gestation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

A prospective cohort study was conducted in 180 antenatal women , 90 patients exposed to fever (temperature $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{c}$ and 90 patients not exposed to fever beyond 28 weeks. Necessary investigations to detect the underlying cause were performed. Maternal complications and adverse perinatal outcomes in terms of preterm delivery, perinatal death, low birth weight (LBW) and low Apgar score at 5 minutes after birth were recorded and compared between the cohort and the control group.

RESULTS :

The etiology and the prevalence of fever among the study group was enlisted. Urinary tract infection was the most common cause of fever in our study (32.2%) . Maternal complications due to pyrexia were more common in the study group when compared to control group. P value is 0.000 which is statistically significant. The adverse fetal outcome were low birth weight, neonatal sepsis, low APGAR score at 5 minutes of birth, preterm labour, intra uterine growth retardation,perinatal death were more common in the study group when compared to the control group. Of these neonatal sepsis and low APGAR score at birth was more sensitive and specific. P value is 0.000 which is statistically significant. There were 2 perinatal deaths.

CONCLUSION:

Our study depicts that a wide range of maternal medical complications as well as fetal and neonatal complications occur due to pyrexia in pregnancy from various etiologies.

Keywords: Low birth weight, Pregnancy, maternal complications, Pregnancy outcome, Pyrexia, neonatal sepsis.