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Original Research Article

Study on maternal and foetal outcome of pregnancy with positive glucose tolerance test by diabetes in pregnancy study group diagnostic criteria

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ABSTRACT

Background: Diabetes in Pregnancy Study group, India (DIPSI) diagnostic criteria is a single step method of screening and diagnosis of gestational Diabetes. Therefore, this prospective study was undertaken to ascertain the validity of DIPSI criteria to diagnose GDM based on pregnancy outcome in Indian population.

Method: The present Hospital based prospective study was conducted at OBGY department, GSL Medical College and General Hospital, Rajahmundry during 2013 to 2015. Women who were attending OBGY OPD for Antenatal check-ups within 24-28 weeks of GA during the study period were included in the study. Each mother at 24-28 weeks of gestation irrespective of last meal timing, fasting / non fasting was given 75 gm glucose dissolved in a glass of 200 ml water to drink and after two hours venous blood was collected.

Result: Out of 500 cases, 26 cases are diagnosed as having gestational diabetes by DIPSI criteria and 474 cases are Normal glucose tolerant. Maximum number 53.9% of cases diagnosed as GDM by DIPSI are of age >25 yrs (53.9%), primigravida (65.7%), BMI>25 (57.7%). In present study, family h/o diabetes is a risk factor for GDM

Conclusion: Our results suggest that a policy of universal screening for GDM should be adopted in all antenatal clinics and 75 gm OGTT has a high predictive value. This single step procedure is a simple economic and feasible method. It serves both for the purpose of screening and diagnosis at the same time.

Keywords: Diabetes in pregnancy study group, Gestational diabetes mellitus, India, Pregnant women, Risk factors

INTRODUCTION

Diabetes Mellitus is a common medical complicating pregnancy. It is estimated that 5 in 200 pregnant women will develop gestational diabetes.¹ Importance of GDM is that two generations (mother and child) are at risk of developing diabetes in future; predominantly type 2 diabetes mellitus.² GDM is associated with increased incidence of maternal hypertension, pre-eclampsia, obstetric intervention and risk of developing diabetes mellitus (DM) in later life.³ Infants of diabetic mothers

stand the risk of macrosomia, growth restriction, congenital malformations, respiratory distress, polycythemia, hypoglycemia, hypocalcaemia and hypomagnesaemia.⁴

In the Indian context, universal screening is essential as the Indian women have eleven fold increased risk of developing glucose intolerance during pregnancy compared to other ethnic groups.⁵ The recent data shows 16.55% prevalence of Gestational Diabetes in our country.^{6,7} The benefit of treatment implies the need for universal screening and diagnosis of gestational Diabetes mellitus.

Numerous methodologies for the diagnosis of GDM have been proposed. Diabetes in Pregnancy Study group, India (DIPSI) diagnostic criteria is a single step method of screening and diagnosis of gestational Diabetes that is 75g oral glucose challenge test with 2 hour post plasma glucose >140mg/d1 is diagnostic of gestational Diabetes mellitus. It is modified version of WHO OGTT, in that the WHO procedure requires women to be in the fasting state, whereas DIPSI procedure is performed in the fasting/non-fasting state irrespective of the lastmealtiming.8 Hence, this prospective study was undertaken to ascertain the validity of DIPSI criteria to diagnose GDM based on pregnancy outcome in Indian population.

Objectives of this study to assess the maternal and foetal outcome of pregnancy with positive Glucose Tolerance Test by DIPSI diagnostic criteria.

METHODS

The present Hospital based prospective study was conducted at OBGY department, GSL Medical College and General Hospital, Rajahmundry during 2013 to 2015. Women who were attending OBGY OPD for Antenatal checkups within 24-28weeks of GA during the study period were included in the study.

Inclusion criteria

All Pregnant women with Gestational age between 24 to 28 weeks attending OPD.

Exclusion criteria

- Patients with overt diabetes mellitus
- Patients with h/o Pancreatitis

Data collection procedure

Each mother at 24-28 weeks of gestation irrespective of last meal timing, fasting / non fasting was given 75 gm glucose dissolved in a glass of 200 ml water to drink and after two hours venous blood was collected .This was analysed in auto analyser in our central laboratory using GOD-POD method.

The DIPSI criteria for diagnosis of gestational diabetes using two hour plasma glucose value of 140mg/dl or more was used as the cut off value to diagnose GDM. Those mothers having blood glucose values more than 140mg/dl were marked as having GDM and the rest with blood glucose values less than 140mg/dl were marked as normal glucose tolerant.

The mothers having GDM were offered treatment. GDM patients with 2 hr blood glucose more than 140mg/dl

were given dietary advice in the form of medical nutrition therapy (MNT) initially for two weeks.

The cases in which MNT fails to achieve control i.e. to maintain, FPG = 90mg/dl and/or 1½ hr PPG = 120 mg/dl, insulin was initiated All screen positive mothers were followed up and encouraged to deliver in our hospital., pregnancy complications like hypertension, polyhydramnios, intrauterine foetal death, mode of delivery, birth weight, Apgar score, still birth, or preterm labour and congenital abnormality in the babies were recorded.

Statistical analysis

Descriptive statistics such as mean, SD and percentage was used to present the data. Association between variables was done by using Chi-square test. A p-value less than 0.05 were considered as significant. Data analysis was performed by using software SPSS v16.

RESULTS

Out of 500 cases 26 cases are diagnosed as having gestational diabetes by DIPSI criteria and 474 cases are Normal glucose tolerant.

Table 1: Relation between GDM with Age and BMI.

Characteristics	GDM	Non GDM	P value	
AGE				
≤20	3(11.5%)	159(33.5%)		
21-25	9(34.6%)	222(46.9%)	0.000	
26-30	12 (46.2%)	83(17.5%)	0.000	
>30	2 (7.7%)	10 (2.1%)		
BMI				
<20	1(3.9%)	48(10.1%)		
20.1-25	10(38.4%)	287(60.6%)	0.002	
25.01-30	12(46.2%)	135(28.4%)	0.002	
30.01-35	3(11.5%)	4(0.9%)		
GRAVIDA				
Primi	17(65.4%)	235(49.6%)	0.117	
Multi	9(34.6%)	239(50.4%)	0.117	

In the present study out of 26 cases of GDM 11.5%, 34.6%, 46.2%, 7.7% cases are of age group <20, 21-25, 26-30, >30 respectively.

Out of 474 cases of NGT 33.5%, 46.8%, 17.5%, 2.2% are of age group <20, 21-25, 26-30, >30 respectively. Totally 53.9% of cases are of age >25 in GDM group, 19.7% of cases are of age <25 which is statistically significant (p value 0.00) showing age >25 is a risk factor for GDM.

The above table represents out of 26 cases of GDM 3.9%, 38.4%, 46.2%, 11.5% of cases are of BMI <20, 20.01-25, 25.01-30, 30.01-35 respectively.

In 474 cases of NGT 10.1%,60.6%,28.4%0.9% of cases are of BMI ranging from <20, 20.01-25, 25.01-30, 30.01-35 respectively.

Over all 57.7% of cases are of BMI>25 in GDM group, 29.3% of cases are of BMI<25 which is statistically significant(P=0.002) which indicates that BMI>25 is strongly associated with occurrence of GDM.

The above table represents that out of 26 cases of GDM 65.4% of cases are primi gravida, 34.6% of cases are multi gravida. out of 474 cases of NGT 49.6\% cases are primi garvida, 50.4% of cases are multi gravida which is statistically insignificant (p=0.117) which indicates that the incidence of GDM is not related with parity.

Table 2: Association of other risk factors.

Other risk factors	No of cases	GDM	Non GDM	p value
H/o still birth or IUD	41(8.2%)	6(23.1%)	35(7.3%)	0.005
H/o congenital anamolies	3(0.7%)	3(11.5%)	0(0%)	0.0001
Family H/o DM	53(10.6%)	12(46.1%)	41(8.6%)	0.0001

The above table represents association of GDM with risk factors. Out of 500 cases of present study group 41 (8.2%) cases had h/o stillbirth of which 6 (23.1%) cases are diagnosed as GDM and 35 (7.3%) cases are NGT, which is statistically significant (p=0.005) showing that h/o still birth is strongly associated with occurrence of GDM.

Table 3: Maternal Complications in GDM.

Maternal complications	Total No	GDM	NGT
UTI	25(5%)	4(15.3%)	21(4.4%)
IUGR	3(0.6%)	0(0%)	3(0.63%)
Preeclampsia	16(3.2%)	6(23.1%)	10(2.1%)
Polyhydromnios	15(3%)	4(15.3%)	11(2.3%)

Out of 500 cases 3 (11.5%) cases had H/O congenital anomalies, all 3 cases were found to be GDM by DIPSI diagnostic criteria which is statistically significant (P<0.0001) when compared with NGT cases showing that h/o congenital anomalies is a risk factor for GDM.

Table 4: Pregnancy Outcome in GDM Cases.

Outcome	No. of cases	%
Vaginal Delivery	15	57.7%
Cesarean Sections	10	38.4%
Preterm Labour	3	11.5%
Requirement of Insulin	2	7.6%
Instrumental Delivery	1	3.84%
IUD	1	3.84%

Out of 500 cases, 53 (10.3%) cases had family h/o diabetes mellitus of which 12 (46.1%) cases are diagnosed as GDM by DIPSI 41 (8.6%) cases are NGT which is statistically significant (P<0.0001). So, family h/o diabetes mellitus is a risk factor for GDM. Out of 26 cases of GDM 4 (15.3%) cases had UTI,6 (23.1%) cases had pre-eclampsia, 4 (15.3%) cases had polyhydromnios as a complication during their antenatal period.

In 474 cases of NGT, 21 (4.4%) cases had UTI, 3(0.63%) cases had IUGR, 10 (2.1%) cases had preeclampsia, 11 (2.3%) cases had polyhydromnios.

The above table represents out of 26 cases of GDM 57.7% of cases underwent NVD,38.4% of cases are delivered by caesarean section, 11.5% of cases underwent spontaneous preterm labour, 7.6% of cases required insulin for their treatment, 3.84% of cases required instrumental delivery, 3.84% of cases had IUD.

Table 5: Foetal outcome in GDM Cases.

Foetal Outcome	No of cases	%
Hyperblirubinemia	4	15.3%
Hypoglycemia	3	11.5%
Respiratory disterss	2	7.6%
Macrosomia	1	3.84%
Hypocalcemia	0	0%

The above table represents out of 26 cases of GDM 7 cases admitted in NICU 4(15.3%) cases got admitted in v/o hyperbilirubinemia, 3(11.5%) cases in v/o RDS.2 (7.6%) cases in v/o RDS, 1(3.84%) case in v/o macrosomia and low APGAR score.

DISCUSSION

Universal versus selective screening

In order to reduce the burden of screening on women and the health care system, the concept of selective screening was introduced. Selective screening originally consisted of taking a personal and family history in order to identify a high-risk population in need of further directed testing.^{9,10}

Women with any of the risk factors were advised to perform a 50 g glucose challenge test. Screening by risk factors alone has a sensitivity of 63% and a specificity of 56%10. In other words, 37-50% of women with GDM

may go undiagnosed using this approach. To this low sensitivity, most guidelines prior to 1995 recommended universal biochemical screening. Recent data and reviews of existing data suggesting that women at low risk for GDM could be exempt from biochemical screening led the ADA to revise their guidelines to recommend that women who are 25 years old or younger, who are Caucasian and are not obese (<20% over desired body weight or BMI \leq 27 kg/m2) could be exempt from screening.¹⁰⁻¹² This revised concept of selective screening will still result in screening 90% of all pregnant patients.¹³ Thus many clinicians continue the practice of universal screening.

In present study 88.4% (23) of GDM cases are having one or more risk factors for the development of GDM,11.5% (3) of cases are without any risk factors which would have been missed if selective screening was done. This implies that universal screening is mandatory to identify GDM cases, prevent maternal foetal mortality and morbidity.

Incidence of GDM

The prevalence of GDM varies from 5-15% depending on the population studied. According to study conducted by Balaji et al. the prevalence of GDM is 13.4%, In present study the out of 500 cases 26 (5.2) % cases are diagnosed as GDM by DIPSI diagnostic criteria. 474 (94.8%) are Normal Glucose Tolerant [NGT]. The prevalence of GDM in present study is 5.2% which is comparable to the study conducted by Wahi et al, and prevalence was 6.94%, similar study conducted by V Seshiah et al. showed prevalence of 16.2%.^{8,14,15}

Relation between GDM and AGE

Various studies have shown that maternal age is highly correlated with risk of GDM. According to Battacharya et al, the incidence of GDM in relation to age >25 is 39.75%.¹⁶

In the present study, statistically significant showing strong relation between GDM and increased age was found. In present study 53.9% of GDM are >25 years which can be comparable to the study conducted by DIXON DRD et.al and found to be 51.2%.¹⁷

Relation between GDM and parity

Higher parity has been found to be associated with higher prevalence of GDM in a few studies.^{18,19} Granat et al. and his colleagues did not find any correlation between parity and alterations of carbohydrate metabolism in their study.²⁰

In present study, no relation between GDM and parity which is comparable to study done by Granat et al..²⁰

Though insignificant the incidence of GDM was found to be more in case of primigravida . Jang et al. found greater ratio of women with GDM in the group with parity >2, in comparison to primiparas but after controlling for age, pre-pregnancy BMI, height, family history of diabetes mellitus and weight gain during pregnancy, the results were not statistically significant.²¹

Though above studies has shown more association of GDM with multi gravid in present study out of 17 (65.4%), 11 (64.7%) cases fall underage group >25, 10 (58.8%) cases are of BMI >25 which is an independent risk factor for GDM. 9 (52.9%) of cases had family history of DM which is also a risk factor for GDM could be the reason for GDM to be more prevalent in primigravid. Martin and Nagy also reported 54.8% and 52% cases of GDM with positive history of diabetes in first-degree relatives respectively in their series.^{22,23}

Relation between GDM and BMI

Obesity is an independent risk factor for GDM, causing hormonal imbalance of carbohydrate regulation mechanism and insulin sensitivity. Gestational diabetes and obesity have adverse outcomes in pregnancy like caesarean delivery, perinatal deaths, preeclampsia, birth defects, macrosomia associated with subsequent childhood obesity.²⁴

In present study, obesity is strongly associated with occurrence of GDM. A study done by Hadaegh F et al, showed that BMI >25 kg/m2more prevalent in GDM subjects.²⁴ Out of 57.7% (15) of cases 56.2%(9) of cases underwent lscs, 25 % of cases had preeclampsia during their antenatal period, 1(3.84%) of cases delivered a macrosomic baby which shows obesity is an independent risk factor for GDM.

Relation between GDM and family H/O

Family history of diabetes mellitus has been reported to be associated with higher chances of developing GDM.^{19,25-27} In present study, a significantly higher per cent of women with GDM had positive family history of diabetes mellitus. Seshiah et al. observed a significant association between the family history of diabetes mellitus and the occurrence of GDM among pregnant women.²⁵

In present study, family h/o diabetes is a risk factor for GDM as observed by Seshiah et al.²⁵

Relation between GDM and H/O still birth

Poor past obstetric history of stillbirth and neonatal deaths are important factors in detection of GDM. Turki Gaisim showed that 14% GDM had history of unexplained stillbirth. In present study out of 26 cases of GDM 23.1% of cases had h/o stillbirth/Neonatal death.²⁸

Relation between GDM and preeclampsia

Multiple studies have investigated the risk of gestational hypertension and pre-eclampsia to occur in women with GDM. Casey et al. compared 61,209 non-diabetic pregnant women to 874 women with diet treated GDM.²⁹ They documented a higher risk for hypertensive disorders reaching 17% in the GDM population vs 12% in nondiabetic women. Joffe et al. in the Calcium for Preeclampsia Prevention (CPEP) trial followed 4589 nulliparous women. They demonstrated that among women with GDM and increased risk for pre-eclampsia specifically as well as for all hypertensive disorders.³⁰ Similar results were reported by Yogev et al, who studied 1813 patients with GDM and demonstrated that preeclampsia in GDM subjects is diagnosed at a younger age, usually during the first pregnancy, in more obese women and in those with a higher gestational weight gain.³¹

In the present study, the incidence of preeclampsia in association with GDM cases is found to be 23.1%. Out of 6 cases of preeclampsia,4(66.6%) of cases are primi gravid, age >25. A prospective study on 1310 women in Iran showed that GDM women had higher rate of hypertension, polyhydramnios and caesarean section.³²

GDM and its management

In present study, Authors found dietary intervention along with glucose monitoring as the primary therapeutic choice in all the studies meeting our inclusion criteria and insulin therapy was initiated if dietary modification failed to control glycemic levels. Based on the data from present study, results of our analysis indicated that treating GDM women with a specific therapeutic intervention decreases incidence of many adverse pregnancy outcomes. Authors observed significant decrease in the risk of macrosomia, LGA births and shoulder dystocia in infants. Reduction in the risk of macrosomic and LGA babies is likely to have important implications for the infants in the long term also as these outcomes have been linked with delayed motor development, obesity and diabetes later in life.

In the present study out of 26 cases 92.4% cases were managed with MNT, whereas 7.6% of cases required insulin for achieving glycemia.

For the patients who required insulin, the blood glucose level even after 2 weeks of MNT was >140 mg/dl. So, advised insulin Human acrtrapidat a dose of 6u thrice daily, follow up was done by Glucose monitoring, USG abdomen, NST and induced at 38 weeks, one case required outlet foreceps for delivery, one underwent emergency lscs in v/o foetal distress.

Out of 26 cases of GDM one (3.84%) had IUD, this case was diagnosed as GDM at 26 weeks of gestation .Her OGTT after 2 hr of glucose intake was 186mg/dl. Patient was advised MNT, daily glucose monitoring. Inspite of the above treatment patient reported loss of foetal movements and diagnosed IUD, weight of the baby 1900gms and it is more than the expected weight of the foetus at 27 weeks.

GDM and polyhydromnios

The association between diabetes and polyhydramnios is well known.³³ A commonly supported theory is that increased amniotic fluid volume in diabetic pregnancies could be a result of maternal hyperglycemia which, in turn, produces fetal hyperglycemia and osmotic diuresis. It has consistently been reported that approximately 15% of pregnancies complicated by polyhydramnios occur in diabetic women.³⁴ This figure was consistent with our study. Authors found that 4 of our polyhydramnios patients (15.3%) were diabetic. Out of 4(15.3%) of cases one case had congenital anomalies, and one case delivered a macrosomia baby.

GDM and preterm birth

The link between GDM and spontaneous preterm birth is still controversial. Hedderson et al, showed in a large cohort study that GDM was an independent risk factor for spontaneous preterm birth (RR=1.42, 95% CI: 1.15-1.77).³⁵ On the other hand, Yogev et al, found that the rate of spontaneous preterm delivery was not increased in GDM compared to non-GDM patients.³⁶ Nevertheless, both studies found a relationship between higher glucose values in the oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT) or higher mean blood glucose levels and preterm birth.

In present study out of 7 cases of preterm labour 4(0.84%) of cases are NGT, 3(11.5%) of cases are GDM cases which shows rate of spontaneous preterm delivery is more in GDM compared to NGT as said above.

Mode of delivery

The results of the study demonstrate that untreated women with borderline GDM had an increased rate of caesarean delivery compared to controls (29.6% vs. 20.2%, P=0.02), as did had women with treated GDM compared to controls (adjusted OR=2.1; 95% CI 1.3-3.6). Women with treated GDM, even though birth weight was normalized, remained at a higher risk for caesarean delivery of approximately 33%. This suggests that diagnosis of GDM leads to a lower threshold for intervention by caesarean delivery, independent of birth weight. Similar rates of caesarean deliveries were reported by Casey et al. who concluded that women with GDM had a 30% rate of caesarean delivery, compared to 17% in the general population.²⁹

In present study, out of 474 cases of NGT, the rate of caesarean section, vaginal delivery, instrumental delivery is 19.8%,70.05%, and 2.1% respectively. Out of 26 cases of GDM the rate of caesarean section, vaginal delivery,

instrumental delivery is 10(38.6%), 15(65.1%) and 1(3.84%) respectively. The main indications for CS being post caesarean, cephalopelvic disproportion, fetal distress, malpresentation and macrosomic babies. The rate of caesarean section in our study (38.6\%) is comparable to the study by Casey et al.²⁹

A similar study from Saudi Arabia was done and reported that, 74.6% spontaneous vertex deliveries, and 21.6% lower segment caesarean section in 685 women with gestational diabetes mellitus.³⁷

The risk is increased not solely for caesarean deliveries, but similarly and independently increased for operative deliveries. Compared with non-diabetics, women with GDM are prone to higher risk of vaginal operative deliveries. The degree of glucose intolerance (determined by FPG >105mg/dl) and maternal weight are independent variables that significantly increase the risk for operative delivery.³⁸

The mode of delivery was also influenced by polyhydramnios. The overall incidence of polyhydramnios in our study group is 3%. The frequency of normal vaginal delivery in patients with polyhydramnios in our study was 53.3%. The rate was reported as 68.2% by Mathew M and 79.5% by Chen KC respectively which can be comparable to present study. 4(26.6%) cases of polyhydramnios are delivered by instrumental delivery, 3(20 %) of cases are delivered by caesarean section.^{39,40}

Macrosomia and GDM

A Study conducted by Ehrenberg et al. in 2004 in Ohio, US, that found that the prevalence of macrosomia was 11.8% of population sample.⁴¹ In the present study, the incidence of macrosomia is 7% which is comparable to a study conducted by Hajy-Ebrahim-Tehrani et al. in Iran the rate was determined as 5.8% in the study.⁴²

Fetal macrosomia is a common adverse infant outcome related to GDM, especially if GDM is unrecognized and untreated. For the infant, macrosomia increases the risks of shoulder dystocia, clavical fractures, and brachialplexus injury and is also associated with depressed 5-min Apgar scores and increased rates of admission to neonatal intensive care unit.⁴³

In present study macrosomia i.e. babies with birth weight \geq 4000kg (90th percentile) was observed in 3.84% of newborns of GDM cases which is 4200 gms, delivered by caesarean section. Her blood glucose level after 2 hours of taking 75gms OGTT was 198mg/d at 24weeks POG. The apgar scores being 7/10 at 5min,10/10 at 10min. The rate of macrosomia in NGT cases is 3.16% of newborn cases which is showing the incidence of macrosomia is almost equal in both the groups. It is comparable to a similar study done by Balaji V. et al. in 2011, showed the equal incidence of macrosomia in treated GDM women

and normal glucose tolerant (NGT) women and concluded that intervention helped in maintaining the pregnancy outcome in GDM women equivalent to that of NGT women.⁸ A study conducted by Vedavathi KJ et al. in 2010 on Influence of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus on Fetal growth parameters concluded that despite the attempts for good glycemic control there is a risk of macrosomia in GDM.⁴⁴

CONCLUSION

The rise in prevalence of Gestational Diabetes in our community and its associated increased risk of pregnancy and delivery complications justifies a need to screen pregnant mothers who attend the antenatal clinic. Our results suggest that a policy of universal screening for GDM should be adopted in all antenatal clinics and 75 gm OGTT has a high predictive value. This single step procedure is a simple economic and feasible method. It serves both for the purpose of screening and diagnosis at the same time. This cost-effective and evidence-based procedure meets our responsibility of offering a singlestep definitive glucose test to every pregnant woman belonging to any socio-economic status. So, looking towards the socio-demographic characteristics of our patients it can be followed in our region to achieve a better outcome.

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