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Effect of knowledge and current management of pre-eclampsia among antenatal patients in labour ward, Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Idi-Araba, Lagos State, Nigeria

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Background: Pre-eclampsia is a pregnancy specific disease, defined by a new onset of hypertension and proteinuria. It affects up to 4% of all pregnancies, and if untreated it can develop to eclampsia. It may also be the cause of intrauterine growth restriction. Pre-eclampsia is a disease of a pregnant woman which claims life if not properly managed, e-learning (2010) stated that pre-eclampsia if adequately managed can reduce fetal and maternal mortality rate, hence this study. The pathogenesis behind the disease is still not fully known. A central aspect in the development of preeclampsia is a failure of trophoblast invasion of the spiral arteries during placentation. The result is low perfusion of the uteroplacental unit, and increased release of placental factors affecting the maternal circulation.

Methods: This research work was to advocate the effect of current management of pre-eclampsia among antenatal patients in LUTH between 2012-2016. The population consists of all antenatal patients diagnosed to be pre-eclamptic on Labour Ward LUTH. Questionnaires were developed, to collect relevant data from the respondent. 150 copies were distributed, while 134 copies were retrieved and used for the study. Relevant literature were reviewed in which different opinion of different authors about the topic were gathered to buttress the research work.

Results: From the research findings, it was obvious that there was poor management of unbooked patients that presented with pre-eclampsia as indicated by the high rate of feto-maternal mortality. If there is adequate knowledge on current management of pre-eclampsia the incidence rate will be reduced.

Conclusion: The effect of current practice of management of pre-eclampsia in Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH), Idi-Araba, Lagos-Nigeria had significantly reduced fetal and maternal mortality and morbidity rate.

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