

Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 347

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Post title: Other(Please specify):, Princess Margaret Hospital, KWC

ONE-YEAR REVIEW OF PREGNANT WOMEN WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN AN OBSTETRIC UNIT OF A REGIONAL HOSPITAL

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Keywords:

CCDS team substance abuse high risk pregnancy risk factors neonatal outcomes

Introduction

The use of substance of abuse in pregnancy creates a substantial impact on perinatal outcomes and the long-term health of women and their children. In our hospital, this high risk group of women would be followed by the Comprehensive Child Development Service team.

Objectives

In order to review the demographic profiles of women with substance abuse, their risk factors included marital status, unplanned pregnancy, use of contraception, smoking and drinking habits, and the commonly used illicit drugs were explored. The maternal and neonatal outcomes were also reviewed to evaluate the services provided to these women.

Methodology

The records of those pregnant women with substance abuse and under the care of CCDS team in 2014 (except the non-Hong Kong resident) were retrieved. A questionnaire was administered during the first interview, and the postnatal assessment form was completed after delivery.

Result

A total of 77 women (1.6% of our total live births) were in the final cohort. 11 (14.3%) women were teenager, 55.8% & 10.4% were single & separated/divorced respectively, while 13.5% & 16.2% claimed to have fair and poor relationship with husband/partner respectively, 83.1% were unplanned pregnancy, and 75.3 % had no contraception. Ketamine (54.7%) & amphetamine (49.3%) were the most commonly used illicit drugs in this group, followed by cocaine, heroin & ecstasy, and 57.5% did not quit the substance during pregnancy. Nevertheless, 50 (64.9%) & 1 (1.3%) babies were transferred special care baby unit and neonatal intensive care unit respectively. Concerning the birth weight, 71 (92.2%) and 6 (7.8%) babies delivered with birth weight more than and less than 2500 grams respectively. 87.8%, 5.4% &

6.8% of the women would take care of their babies by themselves or relatives, foster care & sign off their babies respectively.