

Original Article

# CORRELATION BETWEEN BMI AND PREGNANCY OUTCOME AMONG POSTNATAL MOTHERS WITH PREGNANCY INDUCED HYPERTENSION IN SELECTED HOSPITALS BANGALORE

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**Abstract :**

**Title :** Correlation between BMI and pregnancy Outcome among postnatal mothers with pregnancy Induced hypertension in selected hospital Bangalore.

**Objectives:** To identify and correlate BMI and pregnancy Outcome among postnatal mothers with pregnancy Induced hypertension.

**Method :** A non experimental correlation design was utilized among 80 postnatal mothers who were diagnosed as Pregnancy induced hypertension during their antenatal period selected as samples by using purposive sampling technique. Demographic data were collected by interview method, their BMI was calculated, pregnancy outcomes were identified from records by using an outcome checklist.

**Results:** Underweight mothers had low birth weight babies and received NICU care. Among normal weight mothers 17.5% delivered by LSCS, 15% babies were low birth weight babies 12.5% were preterm babies among them 10% received NICU care. In the overweight group 18.75% undergone LSCS, 18.75% were LBW and 1.25% VLBW, 8.75% babies were preterm, 12.5% newborn received NICU care. Among Obese mothers 8.75% delivered by LSCS, 6.25% of LBW babies, 5% were preterm and all of them received NICU care. There is a positive correlation between BMI and diagnosis and type of delivery. Significant at .01 and .05 Level (p value .008 and .019 respectively). Negative correlation between birth weight and diagnosis and gestational age.  $r = -.499$  significant at .01 level (p value .000)

**Conclusion :** Obesity and under weight is a leading, preventable cause of mortality worldwide. Preeclampsia increases maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality rates. All women who are in reproductive age group and under risk to develop pregnancy induced hypertension need to be educated about to maintenance of normal weight before pregnancy. Nurses have more responsibility on creating awareness among women how to maintain normal weight to avoid development of complications to the mother and newborn.

**Keywords:** BMI, Pregnancy outcome, Pregnancy Induced Hypertension, Low birth weight.

**Introduction :**

Uncomplicated course of pregnancy, which results in normal growth and development of the foetus, is dependent on many factors, individual one as well as factors associated with one another. In addition to influence of environment and genetic predisposition one of the factors is maternal weight before and during gestation.

Ninety nine % of maternal deaths occur in developing countries. In developing

countries a quarter of a million women still die in pregnancy and childbirth each year. The causes of 80 % of all maternal deaths are severe bleeding, infections, and high blood pressure during pregnancy and unsafe abortion. The report trends in maternal mortality show that the maternal mortality ratio for obese pregnant women was 4.6 times higher than underweight mothers. The maternal morbidity ratio reached 41 % in underweight mothers and 70 % in obese mothers. The obesity and underweight were still as a risk factor for maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity. The annual number of maternal deaths dropped from more than 543,000 to 287,000 a decline of 47 per cent from 1990 to 2010.<sup>1</sup>

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The Institute of Medicine in 1995 demonstrated that low maternal weight gain in the second trimester was associated with decreased birth weights ranging from 48 to 248 grams, depending on the pattern of weight gain in the other trimesters. Similarly, in the year 2006 also demonstrated that low prenatal weight gain, especially involving the second trimester, was associated with low birth weight. Finally 1998 study showed that low maternal weight gain between 12 and 20 weeks gestation resulted in infants born small for gestational age and not normal weight infants.<sup>2</sup>

Improvements of maternal health are a key public health goal. In the past few years, pregnancy body mass index (BMI) has become an important childbearing age women. It has been shown that women who gain weight at the start of pregnancy are at risk for poor maternal and child health. Several studies reported that pre pregnancy BMI is associated with infant birth weight. Women who gain weight excessively during pregnancy are at increased risks of poor health outcomes. Weight gain during pregnancy is recommended range (11 to 40 pounds) for women during the last 10 years. Several studies have shown that maternal excessive gestational weight gain (GWG) is associated with increased risks of pregnancy-induced hypertension, gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM), caesarean delivery and large for gestational age infant, and maternal inadequate GWG was associated with increased risks of low birth weight and small for gestational age infant.<sup>3</sup>

**Statement of the Problem**

“A study to assess the relationship between body mass index and pregnancy outcome among postnatal mothers with pregnancy Induced Hypertension in postnatal ward at selected Maternity Hospitals, Bangalore.”

**Objectives of the Study**

1. To assess the body mass index among postnatal mothers with Pregnancy Induced hypertension.

2. To assess the pregnancy outcome among postnatal mothers with Pregnancy Induced hypertension
3. To find out the relationship between body mass index and pregnancy outcome among postnatal mothers with Pregnancy Induced hypertension.
4. To find out the association between body mass index and pregnancy outcome with selected background variables among postnatal mothers with Pregnancy Induced hypertension.

**Literature**

In a study on body mass index before pregnancy on the risk of hypertension in pregnancy revealed that rate of hypertension was higher (55.5 %) compared to normal weight women (35%).<sup>4</sup> Frequencies of hypertension increased with the extent of super obesity (82 %). Foetal anomalies, pre-eclampsia, gestational diabetes and foetal anomalies increased with super obese mothers (28%).<sup>5</sup>

A study with identified obese pregnant women revealed that 148 pregnant women of normal weight. The study was cephalopelvic disproportion, macrosomia, preeclampsia,

**Method :**

After obtaining ethical clearance from the Institutional Review Board, the study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study.

The present study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study.

Eligibility criteria's were postnatal mothers with different levels of body mass index under the age group of 18-45 years and Postnatal mothers who have booked early that is before 12 weeks of gestation and having antenatal card. Postnatal mothers with pre-existing medical conditions were excluded. Body mass index table: It consist of body mass index table of National academy of science to assess the body mass index of selected samples. This include four categories of body mass index such as underweight, (<19.8) normal weight (19.8 – 25), over weight (25.1 – 29) and obese (> 29.1). The body mass index of mother is assessed by Weight (KG)/ (Height in meter). 2 Part two also consist of recordings of body mass index

Tools developed by the researchers were validated and tested for its reliability. The equivalence of this tool was checked by inter observer method by using the formula number of agreements/ number of agreements + number of disagreements. The reliability obtained for maternal outcome checklist was r1 = 0.95 and for neonatal outcome checklist was r1 = 0.93 which indicating that the tools were reliable. Tools used were, Tool 1: demographic variable, Tool 2: It consist of body mass index table and recordings of body mass index values during first antenatal visit and weight at the time of admission for labour. Tool 3: pregnancy outcome checklist which includes maternal and foetal outcome.

The study was carried out using interview and analysis of records. Relevant information (background data) from the study group was collected for which the investigator

personally interviewed each woman with the help of background data sheet. The responses were recorded in the questionnaire and pregnancy outcome checklist. The pregnancy outcome checklist was marked in the checklist by analysing the data.

Procedure: The study was done in the form of a cross-sectional study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study.

findings of the study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study. The study was conducted in the form of a cross-sectional study.

Figure 1 shows that percentage distribution of postnatal mothers according to their BMI. The sample was divided into three groups: normal BMI, overweight samples, and underweight samples.

Table 2 reveals frequency and percentage distribution of pregnancy outcome based on BMI category. Underweight mothers had low birth weight babies and received NICU care. Among normal weight mothers 17.5 % delivered by LSCS, 15% babies were low birth weight babies 12.5 were preterm babies among them 10% received NICU care. In the overweight group 18.75% undergone LSCS, 18.75% were LBW and 1.25% VLBW, 8.75 babies were preterm, 12.5% newborn received NICU care. Among Obese mothers 8.75% delivered by LSCS, 6.25% of LBW babies, 5% were preterm and all of them received NICU.

Table 3 shows there is a positive correlation between BMI and diagnosis (as BMI increases severity of disease

condition increases) and type of delivery that is Incidence of LSCS was high among high BMI mothers. Results showed negative correlation between birth weight and diagnosis and gestational age and positive correlation between diagnosis and type of delivery.

Association between pregnancy outcome and selected demographic variables. Study findings revealed that following demographic variables are significantly

associated with pregnancy outcome at 0.05 level.

There is a significant association between Occupation and BMI  $\chi^2 = 12.838$  p value  $0.046 < 0.05$ , Occupation and Birth weight  $\chi^2 = 1.092$  p value  $.005 < 0.05$ , physical activity and birth weight  $\chi^2 = 10.47$  p value  $.033 < 0.05$ , Diagnosis and type of delivery  $\chi^2 = 17.16$  p value  $.000 < 0.05$ , Diagnosis and birth weight  $\chi^2 = 30.98$  p value  $.000 < 0.05$ , Diagnosis and NICU care  $\chi^2 = 14.61$  p value  $.001 < 0.05$

**Table: 1** Demographic Variable

	Variables	Under weight		Normal weight		Over weight		Obese	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>AGE</b>	<20	0	0	2	2.5	2	2.5	1	1.25
	21-25	2	2.5	27	33.75	12	15	5	6.25
	26-30	0	0	7	8.75	14	17.5	2	2.5
	31-35	0	0	2	2.5	2	2.5	1	1.25
	36-40	0	0	1	1.25	0	0	0	0
<b>Education</b>	primary School	0	0	1	1.25	2	2.5	0	0
	Middle school	0	0	0	0	2	2.5	1	1.25
	Sec.education	0	0	15	18.75	8	10	2	2.5
	PUC	1	1.25	15	18.75	11	13.75	2	2.5
	Diploma	0	0	2	2.5	1	1.25	0	0
<b>Religion</b>	Graduate	1	1.25	6	7.5	6	7.5	4	5
	Hindu	2	2.5	30	37.5	23	28.75	7	8.75
	Christian	0	0	1	1.25	2	2.5	1	1.25
<b>Income in Rs</b>	Muslim	0	0	8	10	5	6.25	1	1.25
	<5000	0	0	7	8.75	3	3.75	0	0
	5001-10000	0	0	15	18.75	9	11.25	5	6.25
	10001-15000	2	2.5	13	16.25	13	16.25	2	2.5
	15001-20000	0	0	1	1.25	3	3.75	0	0
<b>Occupation</b>	>20001	0	0	3	3.75	2	2.5	2	2.5
	Home maker	1	1.25	36	45	27	33.75	8	10
	Skilled worker	0	0	2	2.5	2	2.5	1	1.25
<b>Parity</b>	Unskilled worker	1	1.25	1	1.25	1	1.25	0	0
	First pregnancy	2	2.5	19	23.75	13	16.25	5	6.25
	Second pregnancy	0	0	13	16.25	10	12.5	4	5
	Third pregnancy	0	0	4	5	5	6.25	0	0
<b>Physical activity</b>	Fourth pregnancy	0	0	3	3.75	2	2.5	0	0
	Sedentary worker	2	2.5	24	30	14	17.5	5	6.25
	Moderate worker	0	0	13	16.25	14	17.5	3	3.75
<b>Diagnosis</b>	Heavy worker	0	0	2	2.5	2	2.5	1	1.25
	Gestational HT	0	0	28	35	10	12.5	1	1.25
	Mild.PIH	2	2.5	8	10	16	20	5	6.25
	Severe.PIH	0	0	3	3.75	4	5	3	3.75

**Table : 2** Percentage distribution of Pregnancy Outcome

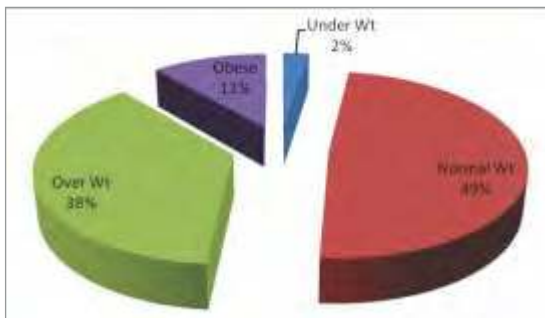
	BMI	Underweight		Normal weight		Overweight		Obese	
	Outcome	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Delivery	NVD	1	1.25	25	31.25	15	18.75	2	2.5
	LSCS	1	1.25	14	17.5	15	18.75	7	8.75
Birth weight	Normal	0	0	24	30	14	17.5	4	5
	LBW	2	2.5	12	15	15	18.75	5	6.25
	VLBW	0	0	3	3.75	1	1.25	0	0
Gestational age	Full term	1	1.25	29	36.25	23	28.75	5	6.25
	Preterm	1	1.25	10	12.5	7	8.75	4	5
NICU care	No	0	0	31	38.75	20	25	5	6.25
	Yes	2	2.5	8	10	10	12.5	4	5

**Table: 3** BMI and correlation

	BMI		Birth weight		Diagnosis	
	r value	P value	r value	P value	r value	P value
Diagnosis	.293**	.008	-.499**	.000	-	-
Type of delivery	.261*	.019	-	-	.449**	.000
Gestational age	-	-	-.494**	.000		

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).



**Figure 1** Distribution of postnatal mothers according to their BMI.

**Discussion :**

The present study indicated that maternal pre pregnancy weight related with greater risks of pregnancy-induced hypertension, caesarean delivery, preterm delivery and prematurity, birth weight at birth. Also reveals that there is a correlation between BMI and pregnancy outcome and association between demographic variable and pregnancy outcome.

A comparative study conducted to investigate the impact of maternal obesity on pregnancy outcomes. Rates of pregnancy complications and neonatal outcomes were collected from perinatal data list and compared between women with normal pre pregnancy body mass index and those with an obese pre pregnancy body mass index. Rates of pregnancy complications and neonatal outcomes were

also evaluated by the level of obesity, severe obesity, and morbid obesity (BMI>30, BMI=35-39.9 and, BMI>40). Rates of gestational diabetes and gestational hypertension were higher for obese 62 % versus normal weight only 10 % in gravid. Women with morbid or severe obesity had a greater incidence of gestational diabetes and gestational hypertension. This is similar to present study.<sup>9</sup>

Another study which was similar to present study prospective population-based cohort study was done to evaluate morbidly obese (BMI>40) women have an increased risk of pregnancy complications and adverse perinatal outcomes. The result of the study was an increased risk of the following outcomes: preeclampsia 20 %, ante partum stillbirth 15%, caesarean delivery 35 %, instrumental delivery 12 %, shoulder dystocia 10 %, meconium aspiration 40 %, foetal distress 30 %, early neonatal death 7 %, and large-for-gestational age 10 % was found women with BMIs between 35.1 and 40 but to a lesser degree compared to BMIs above 40.<sup>33</sup> In this study 8.75 % of obese mother were delivered by LSCS and 6.25 % of newborn babies were LBW.<sup>10</sup>

**Conclusion :**

Obesity and under weight is a leading, preventable cause of mortality worldwide and authorities view it as one of the

most serious public health problems of the 21st century. In developing countries the obesity and underweight were still as a risk factor for maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity. Preeclampsia increases maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality rates. This study revealed that there is a correlation between BMI and pregnancy outcome. Result of this present study and other studies cited in this article are stating that there is association

between BMI and Pregnancy outcome which is modifiable.

All women who are in reproductive age group and under risk to develop pregnancy induced hypertension need to be educated about to maintenance of normal weight before pregnancy. Nurses have more responsibility on creating awareness among women how to maintain normal weight to avoid development of complications to the mother and newborn.

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