



The Effect of the Early First Visit on the Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes among Palestinian Refugee Pregnant Women in Syria

Research Proposal

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Background

- Antenatal care is proved to be successful in maintaining healthy outcomes for mothers and babies.
- Early first visit is recommended by WHO.
- Questions to be addressed:
 - What attributes contribute effectively to the reduction of adverse pregnancy outcomes?
 - Timing of the first visit?
 - Number of visits?
 - Interventions during the ANC visits?
 - The effective follow up?



Background

(continue...)

- In the Palestine Refugees' community in Syria, health services are provided by United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) through primary health care facilities.
- Maternal and child health care is integrated.
- Antenatal care constitutes the basic element.



Why this research?

- Concerns about the increasing percentage of women who visit antenatal clinics during the first trimester.
- Effectiveness of antenatal programme, and in particular the early first antenatal visit on adverse pregnancy outcomes, is still not clear in UNRWA health facilities.



What are the Research Questions?

- Does early first visit contribute to the reduction of the onset of adverse pregnancy and perinatal outcomes (PPO)?
- Are other variables associated to the early first visit determining the pregnancy and perinatal outcomes?



Aim

- To evaluate the effectiveness of the early first antenatal visit (ANV) in order to improve the quality of antenatal program in UNRWA health centers.



Objectives

- To assess the relation between early first ANV and the adverse PPO.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the early first visit in detecting and managing the upcoming risk factors leading to negative outcome.
- To assess the association between early first ANV and other factors (age, education, work, compliance).
- To identify the associated variables affecting adverse PPO.



Study Design

Cohort Retrospective Study:

- Women's records will be divided into two groups depending on the time of presenting to the antenatal care for the first time: first trimester (early first visit), and second/third trimester (late first visit).
- The rate of adverse PPO in the two groups will be compared.



Date, place and Sampling

- Three UNRWA health centres: Syria, Damascus.
- Records of all registered pregnant women in UNRWA three health centres, who delivered between 1/1/2007 and 31/12/2007, will be reviewed.
- Random selection for three HCs.





Key Definition

Early first antenatal visit:

First presenting to the health centre for antenatal clinic until the end of 12 gestational weeks.



Data to be collected

- General information
 - Intervention information
 - Pregnancy outcome
 - Intrapartum and postpartum maternal complications
 - Perinatal outcome
 - The risk factors and findings in the first visit
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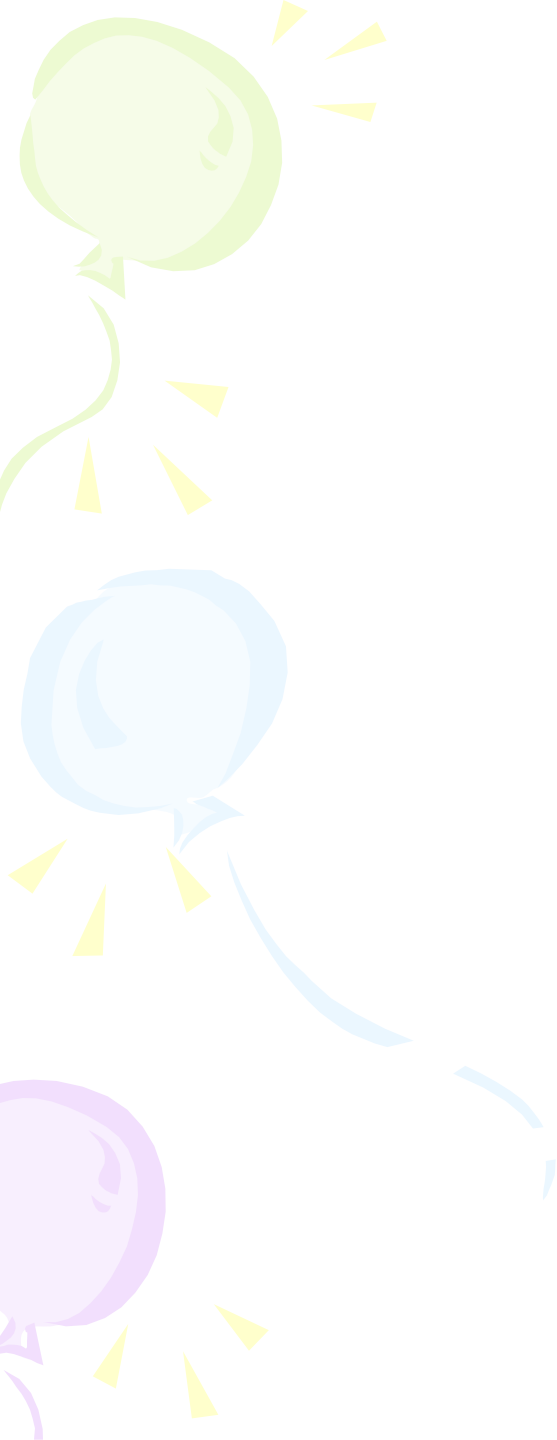
Data Analysis

- Study hypothesis: there will be different outcomes depending on the time of the first visit.
- Comparison of the different sorts of data between two groups:
 - Group 1: early first visit (during first trimester).
 - Group 2: late first visit (during second and third trimester).



References

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Thank You

All