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Fistules obstétricales/Obstetric fistula - Charles-Henry Rochat

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**Perception and attitude of obstetric fistula patients about their condition: report from Regional Hospital Maroua-Cameroon**

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[http://www.gfmer.ch/Presentations\\_En/Pdf/Perception-attitude-obstetric-fistula-Tebeu-2009.pdf](http://www.gfmer.ch/Presentations_En/Pdf/Perception-attitude-obstetric-fistula-Tebeu-2009.pdf).

## **Abstract**

### **Objective**

The general objective of this study is to describe and get a better understanding of the perception and attitude of obstetric fistula patients treated at the Regional Hospital of Maroua-Cameroon.

### **Study design**

This is a case series study of 42 obstetric fistula patients at the Regional Hospital of Maroua-Cameroon. Patients were invited to participate to a survey prior to the surgical procedure from May 2005 to August 2007.

### **Results**

Thirty-two percent of patients (13/41) said that they used to isolate themselves. Fifteen percent of patients (6/41) cited suicide as a solution for their fistula problem. Among the 29 patients who had never been operated before, 12 (41%) declared that this was due to a lack of financing means; 8 (28%) cited the lack of fistula treatment services.

### **Conclusion**

Obstetric fistula patients have a very negative perception and attitude about their condition.

Key words: Obstetric fistula; perception; attitude; Maroua; Cameroon