

ABSTRACT

Belief of First Trimester Pregnant Women towards Medication Use during Pregnancy (Study at Primary Health Care Center in Surabaya)

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Pregnant women's perception may influence their decisions about medication use. The use of medication may cause undesirable effects to the fetus. Some medicines may cross the placenta and therefore, may have some effects.. During the first trimester some medicines may have risks to cause teratogenesis effects, especially in the third to eight weeks of pregnancy. The aim of this study was to see the perception about medication use during pregnancy. This study was a cross-sectional study using accidental sampling. The measurement of perception was performed using a Belief about Medicines Questionnaires (BMQ). In this study, there were 88 (17,9%) first trimester pregnant women from 492 pregnant women recruited at Primary Health Care Centers in Surabaya. The majority of participants had less belief about medicine as dangerous, addictive and poisonous substances, less belief about doctor prescribe medicines too much, high concerns about side effects of medicines to use and less confidence in the required medicines and the effectiveness of prescribed medicines. Most respondents had poor perception related to four categories in BMQ. They were much more restrictive and unsure about the use of medication during pregnancy. The health care professionals should be aware of such attitudes particularly to those with chronic disease when advising a pregnant woman to take medication.

Keyword: belief, pregnant women, first trimester, BMQ, Primary Health Care Center