

Profile of Medical Termination of Pregnancy Seekers in a Tertiary Care Teaching Hospital in Mangalore

M. Shashidhar Kotian*, Ramesh Holla**, Nidhi***, Ayesha Arif****, Mridul Rajurkar*****, Anshuman Kaushal*****, Shailova Ranjan*****

Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore, India
E-mail: nidhi429singh@gmail.com

Background

Medical termination of pregnancy (MTP) is done before the foetus gains viability i.e., before 20 weeks of pregnancy. MTP has been legalized by Government of India. Worldwide approximately 40 million abortions have been done per year or 40-70 per 1000 women of reproductive age group with an abortion ratio of 260-450/1000 live births. In India, about 6 million abortions take place every year; of which 4 million are induced and 2 million are spontaneous. The mortality rate associated with MTP is 5.4 per lakh.

Aims & Objectives

To describe the socio-demographic and obstetric profile of MTP seekers in tertiary care teaching hospital in Mangalore and the reasons for undergoing MTP.

Materials and Methods

This was a hospital based retrospective case record study of all the Medical Termination of Pregnancy seekers at Lady Goschen Government Hospital, Mangalore from January 2011 to December 2012. After the approval from ethics committee, data was collected using a questionnaire after analyzing the information available in the case sheets and their MTP forms were collected. We included variables such as age, marital status, no. of pregnancies, no. of children, details about previous abortions, gestational age, reason for current MTP, and acceptance of contraception after MTP. A total of 244 MTP seekers' details were recorded and analyzed using statistical software SPSS version 17. Descriptive statistics like mean, proportions and standard deviation were used for expressing the results.

Results

From our descriptive study, the following conclusions could be drawn- most of the MTP seekers were married and belonged to the age group of 26-30 years (37.8%) followed by 34.4% of 20-25 years. Majority of MTPs (79.5%) were conducted in the first trimester and 60.66% had parity one or two. Most common reason for the current MTP was found to be medical (39.3%) such as threatened abortions, incomplete abortions and cardiovascular disorders posing a serious threat to the mother's life, followed by completed family (28.7%). Other reasons were contraceptive failure (18.9%), unplanned pregnancy (6.1%), eugenic such as anomalous fetus (4.9%), socio-economic (1.6%) and humanitarian (0.4%). Majority of the MTP seekers (84.8%) had no history of previous abortion. 9% of the MTP seekers accepted contraception after MTP, out of which 74.6% opted for Sterilization and 25.4% opted for IUD insertion.

Conclusions

Our recommendations were that women in the reproductive age group should be given due importance in MCH Programme. Family life education should be provided to adolescent girls through schools and also the ill effects of teenage pregnancy should be highlighted. Proper counseling should be given to married couples, soon after or before marriage regarding the use of contraceptives and strengthening awareness about emergency contraceptive measures. Genetic counseling should be given to couples planning to have a child.

Keywords

MTP; Socio-demographic profile; Tertiary care hospital.