

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH EYE EXAMINATION BEHAVIOR IN PREGNANT WOMEN AT GUNUNGPATI COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, SEMARANG

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ABSTRACT

Background: Visual acuity disturbances are common complaints in pregnancy suggesting the presence of underlying diseases including diabetes, preeclampsia, or refractive eye disorder. Refractive errors occur when the shape of the eye prevents light from focusing directly on the retina. Pregnancy may cause hemodynamic changes and structures of extracellular matrix and collagen sclera associated with the refractive status of the addition of myopia status. Then retinal detachment in high myopia results in permanent viscosity and blindness. This study aimed to investigate factors associated with eye examination behavior in pregnant women at Gunungpati community health center, Semarang.

Subjects and Method: This was a cross-sectional study conducted at Gunungpati community health center, Semarang, Central Java. A sample of 53 pregnant women was selected by simple random sampling. The dependent variable was eye health examination behavior. The independent variables were gestational age, maternal education, knowledge, attitude, eye disorder, and refraction status. Refraction status was diagnosed by doctor using Snellen optotype. The other variables were collected by questionnaire and analyzed by chi square test.

Results: Eye health examination behavior in pregnant women was positively associated with the presence of eye disorder (OR= 51.0; 95% CI= 7.32 to 355.13; $p < 0.001$), higher education (OR= 1.70; 95% CI= 1.35 to 2.14; $p = 0.243$), better knowledge (OR= 2.40; 95% CI= 1.14 to 40.93; $p = 0.534$), positive attitude (OR= 2.68; 95% CI= 1.88 to 3.83; $p = 0.075$), and the presence of refraction status (OR= 1.06; 95% CI= 0.99 to 1.14; $p = 0.724$). Eye health examination behavior in pregnant women was negatively associated with gestational age (OR= 0.24; 95% CI= 0.01 to 4.25; $p = 0.299$)

Conclusion: Eye health examination behavior in pregnant women increases with eye disorder, education, knowledge, attitude, refraction status, and decreases by gestational age.

Keywords: eye health examination, behavior, pregnant women

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