



Title: “The Wi Fi Connection & Hi Fi Pregnancy” - Influence of internet on conception , pregnancy and childbirth among women

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Introduction: In the so called “*Smart Era*” where the “*Smart mobile phones*” with the internet access at the fingertips (Thanks to the Wi Fi connections) have resulted in “*Smart young women*” turning into “*Smart moms*” but at certain times overloaded with information resulting in “*Over smart*” attitudes sometimes interfering with health care decisions. The current scenario of the internet empowerment among the pregnant woman has put the “traditional” childbirth education at the crossroads. In 2005 , a survey among postpartum women revealed that internet is the source of information for more than three fourths of them among which 16% of the primipara women and 13 % of the multipara women acknowledged internet as their preferable method for availing quick and elaborate information related to their health and pregnancy.

Aim : The aim of the author was to find out the extent of the internet’s influence on the information seeking behavior as well as the decision making among women who have conceived or preparing to conceive.

Methodology : The Comprehensive literature search was done in 5 databases – cinhal, cochrane, sciencedirect, medscape and pubmed using the “Pearl Growing” search strategy. The obtained references matching the search terms were analyzed by the author. An overall of 350 articles were browsed through , of these around 93 articles based on the inclusion criteria were chosen. Almost 21 articles out of 93 were indexed in more than one database thus the actual number reduced to 72.

Conclusion: The findings of the studies reveal that women tend to rely on the information gained from the net irrespective of their reliability and sometimes take decisions based on it . If used appropriately Internet is a boon otherwise a curse.

Biography

Mrs. Frincy Francis has completed her Masters in Obstetrical and Gynaecological Nursing from Tamilnadu Dr. MGR University and is aspiring to do Phd . Currently working as lecturer in the Sultan Qaboos University , College of nursing. She has presented more than 7 papers at national and international conferences. Active in research and is reviewer in reputed journals. To add on to the credits , recently she won the Dr. Umberto Veronesi Foundation Award for the best research poster at the third Congress of EURAMA.