INTRODUCTION
Postpartum depression is an affective disorder that can occur after delivery. Women who have suffered from postnatal depression are much more likely to have depression again in subsequent frequencies 50-100%. Researchers from north-western medicine reported in JAMA psychiatry that postpartum depression affects approximately 1 in every 7 new mothers.

RATIONALE
The incidence of postnatal depression in India is 10-20%. There are some risk factors which are associated with postnatal depression such as, abortion, low socioeconomic status, female child, disturbed family, unwanted childbirth. These factors could affect the mental health of the mother and family too.

OBJECTIVES
• To assess the prevalence of postnatal depression among postnatal mothers.
• To find out association between level of depression and demographic variables.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Design: The study used Univariate descriptive design
Setting: BLDEA’s Hospital Bijapur, Karnataka, India
Sample: 105 postnatal mothers
Sampling Technique: Convenient sampling technique.
Tools used: Edinburgh postnatal depression scale
Data Analysis: Descriptive and Inferential Statistics like chi square was used

RESULTS
• out of 105 samples 12 (12%) were normal, 23 (22%) mothers had mild depression, 33 (31%) mothers had moderate depression and 37 (35%) mothers had severe depression.
• There is significant association between age and postnatal depression (p value 0.05)
• but there is no significant association between education, occupation, income, religion and total number of pregnancy and postnatal depression (p>0.05).

CONCLUSION
The study concluded that 88% mothers are suffering from postnatal depression and there is significant association between age of the mother and postnatal depression. Findings of the study are helpful to midwives and nursing students to prevent the occurrence of postnatal depression.