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Topic: Community health and nutrition programs

Title: PREVALENCE OF ANAEMIA AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN ATTENDING ANTENATAL CARE IN MEDICAL FACILITIES WITHIN EKWULOBIA AGUATA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA ANAMBRA STATE NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Anaemia in pregnancy has continued to be a global problem associated with increased maternal morbidity and mortality particularly in developing countries such as Nigeria. Objective: The study was carried out to determine the prevalence of anaemia among pregnant women attending antenatal care in Medical Facilities within Ekwulobia, Aguata L.G. A, Anambra State Nigeria. Methods: Two hundred and two pregnant women were purposively selected for the survey. The pregnant women were selected from General hospital, Cynvic specialist hospital, Primary Health Centre and St. Victoria specialist hospital all in Ekwulobia. The instruments used for data collection were questionnaire and biochemical analysis. Data were collected on background information, personal data and socio- economic factors. Blood samples were collected from the antecubital vein to determine the Haemoglobin concentration of the respondents using automated analyzer. Results: The findings revealed that 36.2% of the women were anaemic. About 33.7% were mildly anaemic while 2.5% were moderately anaemic. About 43.3% of women in their first trimester had mild anaemia. None of the women in their first trimester had moderate or severe anaemia. For women in their second trimester, 34.8% had mild anaemia, 3.3% had moderate anaemia. For women in their third trimester, 33.7% had mild anaemia while 2.5% had moderate anaemia. There was a significant relationship ($p=0.008$) between the education attained by the women and hemoglobin concentration. Occupation of women had a significant relationship with their haemoglobin level ($p=0.027$). Conclusion: The prevalence of anaemia in the study population was high and of public health importance.