

Thesis Title Factors Associated with Preterm Delivery in
Pregnant Women at Ramathibodi Hospital: 1988-1990
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Abstract

Preterm delivery is not only the cause of perinatal death but also morbidity. In the caring and the treatment, trained personnel and specific instruments were needed which meant expensive expenditure. So the prevention of preterm delivery by antenatal care is necessary. Some factors associated with preterm delivery were studied in Ramathibodi Hospital where was more reliable in gestational age.

The purpose of this retrospective study was to find out the factors effecting preterm delivery in pregnant women at Ramathibodi Hospital. Data were collected from hospital records of pregnant women who had delivered at Ramathibodi Hospital during January 1.1988 to December 31.1990. The study group was chosen by systematically sample from women delivered preterm. The control group was women

delivered before and after women who were in the study group. Chi-square test and Odds ratio were applied at ninety-five percent significant-level for data analysis.

The result revealed that preterm birth rate was 8.3% per year. Most of the preterm delivered women were 20-35 years old (79%) with gestational age of 36 weeks (47.6%). The occupation was labourer (38.5%) primigravidity (39.1%) and secondparity (51.5%).

Factors associated with preterm delivery were gravidity (OR = 1.8) parity (OR = 1.7), birth spacing (OR = 2.3), history of preterm delivery (OR = 3.4), pregnancy induced hypertension (OR = 4.2), premature rupture of membranes (OR = 11.1), antepartum bleeding (OR = 17.2), twin pregnancy (OR = 14) and other complication (medical, surgical and gynecology) (OR = 2.3). Variables which did not reach significant include age, occupation, education, height, abortion history, hemoglobin level and weight gain.

The results of this study can be used in the screening of pregnant women who are high risk to preterm delivery and for planning prenatal care of the pregnant women by doctor and health team to reduce preterm birth rate.