

Abstract

Identification and analysis of therapy used by pregnant women II.

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Introduction and objective: Taking medication during pregnancy often implies higher risk of adverse effects for pregnant woman as well as for the foetus. In the Czech Republic, there is not enough information for rational drug taking during gravidity yet. The purpose of the practical part was to identify and analyze therapy used by pregnant women by questionnaires, in which respondents could show their knowledge and awareness of over-the-counter drugs, medical devices, food supplements and herbal and homeopathic remedies.

Methods: The data collection lasted from August 2017 to March 2018 and was performed in the form of questionnaires at the Domažlice Hospital, Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics. Nurses played a vital role to distribute the questionnaires and instruct every newly admitted woman how to fill them. The questionnaire was anonymous, contained 50 questions of open, semi-open and closed types and included introduction letter with the entrance criteria. After filling in, they were transformed into electronic ones using Google Forms. Collected data were assessed by descriptive statistics.

Results: There were 219 women hospitalized during the period of data collection. Entrance criteria met 69,4 % of respondents. Women were 28,9 years old on average (SD = 4,5). 92,8 % of patients suffered from acute syndromes and 62,5 % needed to use pharmacotherapy. 9,9 % of respondents took homeopathy, 48,7 % used herbal remedies, vitamins for pregnant women chose 65,7 %, and other supplements 75,7 % of women. Altogether, 56,6 % of pregnant women needed information about suitable drug taking and 48,7 % sought for the information on the Internet. The most frequent sources mentioned were discussion forums focused on gravidity.

Conclusion: Taking medication, food supplements and herbal remedies during pregnancy was common. The awareness of pregnant women should be raised as there is a lack of relevant data about safety of those remedies used during gravidity, and mainly specialists in pharmacies should be responsible for doing this.

Keywords: pregnant women, awareness, pharmacotherapy.