

Abstract

Backgrounds: This thesis deals with the research of tobacco dependence in pregnant and breast-feeding mothers. One hundred pregnant or maternity leave women smokers or former smokers participated in the research. The quantitative data were obtained using online questionnaire. The study is completely anonymous.

Objectives: The main objective of this research is to determine whether pregnancy significantly motivates women to stop smoking cigarettes because of the health of their child and whether the motive to give up smoking in financial terms. The secondary objective of the study was to find out how the gynecologist will react when he finds that his female patient – smoker is pregnant.

Methods: The data were obtained using an anonymous online questionnaire. Data has been processed using quantitative analytical and statistical methods while keeping ethical principles.

Results: 100 women participated the study. Women aged 20-25 years old have appeared most frequently (total 30%) in the research sample. Almost half (46%) of surveyed women started smoking at the age of 17-18 years. Two women reported that smoking since twelve years. 38% women were pregnant at the time of research. Almost a third (32%) patients have not been asked, whether they are smoking. Of the remaining 68% women, who have been asked by gynecologist, only half of the recommended stop smoking, 34% of women were advised to limit smoking and 16% to keep. The research shows that women in most cases (80%) give up smoking (58%) or try to at least reduce smoking (22%) because of pregnancy to minimize damage the health of their unborn child. Half of them did so in the first month of pregnancy. One fifth of women smoke during pregnancy but did not stop. In total, 19% of women changed during pregnancy brand cigarettes. Further research showed that the financial costs associated with nicotine addiction is not a satisfactory motive to behavior change.

Conclusions: Based on study results, we can observe that the pregnancy as the new women role have a significant effect on the change of view on the issue of smoking. The financial costs for women smokers are not sufficient motive to give up smoking, which was a surprising finding.

Key words: addiction, smoking, pregnancy, breast feeding, finance

