

Bisphenol A: Are Pregnant Women aware of it?

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Bisphenol A (BPA) is a chemical compound used worldwide in the industrial production of plastic-made products such as food containers. Exposure to BPA increases risk of several endocrine and metabolic disorder. During pregnancy, it may cause small-for-gestational age, adverse action of adipokines and disturbance to the hypothalamo-pituitary axis. **Objective:** To determine the level of awareness of BPA and its negative health effects among pregnant women. **Method:** This is a prospective observational study conducted in Sungai Buloh Hospital from September to August 2017. It involved 120 pregnant women who were in labour with a term singleton pregnancy; without any endocrine disorders. A questionnaire on BPA was completed via face-to-face interview and data was analysed using SPSS v 24. **Result:** The mean age of the participants was 29 years old (SD = 4.88). Seventy (58.3%) women have heard about BPA but, only 47 (39.2%) women knew that BPA is a key building block of plastic. Forty-two (35%) women did not know that BPA can be found in baby feeding bottle. Further, 79 (65.8%) women did not know that exposure to BPA during pregnancy may cause negative health effects to maternal health. This was significantly associated with educational status ($p=0.036$). Fifty-two (43.3%) women did not know exposure to BPA during pregnancy may cause negative health effects to their newborns. This is significantly associated with their income group ($p=0.014$). **Conclusion:** Despite being a health risk, awareness of BPA among the pregnant women are low and effort should be taken to improve this.

Humanitarian Obstetrics and Gynaecology Care for Rohingya's Refugees. A 9-month Experience of O&G Services in Malaysian Field Hospital, Cox Bazar, Bangladesh

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ABSTRACT

Objective: To report the 9 months of experiences of O&G services in Malaysian Field Hospital for the refugees from Rohingya in Cox Bazar, Bangladesh. **Design:** Prospective observational study of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology (O&G) activities in Malaysian Field Hospital. **Population:** All women among the refugees from Rohingya and the local Host who came to Malaysian Field Hospital and who were seen by the Forward Medical Team of Malaysian Field Hospital. **Methods:** Malaysian Field Hospital the only level 3 Hospital in Cox Bazar, Bangladesh. Malaysian Field Hospital accepted all obstetrics and gynaecological referral cases from the level-two facilities and level-one facilities sponsored by other NGOs. We also received patients from our Forward Medical Team. **Result:** From May 2018 to Feb 2019, a total of 1738 O&G patients attended the Malaysian Field Hospital. 968 pregnant women seen with a total of 155 procedures / operations performed. 529 patients were seen during Forward Medical Team. **Conclusion:** Malaysian Field Hospital plays an important role as a referral centre for the refugees from Rohingya and local host in Cox Bazar. Malaysian Field Hospital is the only hospital with ICU facilities and one of the hospitals with blood bank facilities, so most of the complicated cases that required ICU management and blood bank facilities such as eclampsia and obstetric haemorrhage. Malaysian Field Hospital also managed major gynaecological surgeries with the availability of operating theatre and ICU. Continuation of services from the Malaysian Field Hospital is strongly needed for the refugees from the Rohingya and local Host.