

**Deanship of Graduate Studies
Al-Quds University**



**Knowledge and Attitudes of Medicating Pregnant
Women with Chronic Pain: A survey of Health Care
Providers in Gaza Governorates**

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**Knowledge and Attitudes of Medicating Pregnant
Women with Chronic Pain: A survey of Health Care
Providers in Gaza Governorates**

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Thesis Approval

Knowledge and Attitudes of Medicating Pregnant Women with Chronic Pain: A Survey of Health Care Providers in Gaza Governorates

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Jerusalem – Palestine

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Dedication

To the sake of Allah, my creator and my lord.

To my teacher, leader, intercessor, and beloved prophet Muhammed (peace and blessings be upon him).

To my beloved family: parents, sisters, and brothers, whose affection, love, encouragement and prays of day and night make me able to get such success and honor.

To my gorgeous husband Samer, my shining source of hope and goodness.

To my daughters, with hope for a bright future.

To my magnificent uncle Mohammed and my cousin Fatoom, for their support, care, and endless love.

To my friends, who encourage and support me.

Fatma Kamaleldeen Jaber Elmghary

Declaration

I certify that this thesis submitted for the degree of Master, is the result of my own research, except where otherwise acknowledged, and that this study (or any part of the same) has not been submitted for a higher degree to any other university or institution.

Signed

Fatma Kamaleldeen Jaber Elmghary

Date: / / 2018

Acknowledgment

At the very outset, all my prayers and thankfulness are to Allah the almighty for facilitating this work and for granting me the opportunity to be surrounded by great and helpful people.

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Abstract

Every patient with pain has the right to be treated with dignity, respect, and high quality pain management. This study aimed to investigate the level of knowledge and attitudes of health care providers (HCPs) regarding medicating pregnant women with chronic pain at the governmental Hospitals in the Gaza Strip. Observational descriptive cross-sectional study design was used. A simple random sampling technique was used, by Epi Infer version 7, 144 HCPs were selected from target population 340 HCPs who were working at the obstetric departments 136 HCPs out of 144 HCPs with a response rate 94.4%. A validated questionnaire as a study tool was used. Different statistical procedures operated by SPSS version 20 were used for data analysis including percentages, mean, independent sample t test, and One-way ANOVA. The study results revealed that the mean percentage of knowledge of HCPs to medicate pregnant women with chronic pain is 55.14%, mean of their attitude is 36.33%. The results revealed that there were no statistically significant differences in the level of HCPs' knowledge and attitudes with regard to their gender, educational levels, job titles, years of experience, and places of work. While there were significant differences in the mean level of HCPs' knowledge with regard to their age groups in favor of those who are more than 40 years. Also, there were statistically significant differences in the mean level of HCPs' knowledge among their different years of experience in favor of those who have more than 15 years of experience. Moreover, there were statistically significant differences in the mean level of HCPs' knowledge among their different places of work in favor of those who are working at Al Aqsa Hospital. The study concluded that HCPs in the obstetrical departments in the Gaza Strip have adequate knowledge and attitude regarding medicating pregnant women with chronic pain. The researcher recommends conducting periodic educational sessions for all types of HCPs to receive more important information about chronic pain management especially for pregnant women.

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List of Abbreviations

CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CPD	Cephalopelvic Disproportion
CS	Caesarean Section
FDA	Food and drug Administration
GS	Gaza Strip
HCPs	Health Care Providers
IoM	Institute of Medicine
MoH	Ministry of Health
NAS	Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
NGO s	Non-governmental Organizations
NICE	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
NMC	Naser Medical Complex
PCBS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
US	United States
VAS	Visual Analog Scale
WB	West Bank
WHO	World Health Organization