E3-20: Secondhand Smoke Exposure and Birth Outcome in Jordan

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Abstract:
Introduction: Tobacco smoking rates in the Middle East range from 50-65%; Approximately 50% of adult men and 11% of adult women in Jordan smoke. Even though smoking is very common in developing countries, the effects of secondhand smoke (SHS) exposure on birth outcomes have not been adequately described in developing countries. Since low birth weight (LBW) neonates have a greater risk for mortality and morbidity, it is imperative to further examine the risks associated with SHS exposure during pregnancy. The purpose of this study is to examine the influence of SHS exposure on neonatal birth weight and to investigate the risk of having a LBW neonate as a result of being exposed to SHS during pregnancy among Jordanian women

Method(s): A population-based cross-sectional design was used across the north of Jordan. The study population consisted of 300 women and neonate pairs attending the post delivery unit at a public teaching hospital in a major city in Jordan(response rate 97%). The SHS Exposure
Questionnaire was used to quantify exposure in various settings (home; work settings, other settings) among women during their first, second, and third trimesters. The neonate medical records were used to measure the neonatal outcome variables that included birth weight and LBW. Also both mother and neonate medical records were used to measure potential neonatal covariates.

**Results:** After controlling for potential confounders, exposure to SHS during the second trimester significantly reduced birth weights (R² = .38; F(6,293) = 30.13; p < .05). Using logistic regression analysis, women with second trimester SHS exposure in work settings had a significantly greater risk for delivering a low birth weight (LBW) infant (p < .05). However, the risk for LBW based on exposure setting was negligible (home - Odds Ratio (OR) = 1.1 (95% CI 1.029 - 1.124); work - OR = 1.33 (95% CI 1.052 - 1.684); other - OR = 1.12 (95% CI 1.055 - 1.262)).

**Discussion & Conclusions:** These findings provide compelling evidence that the birth weight of infants from nonsmoking women is adversely affected by exposure to SHS in utero, and underlines the importance of teaching childbearing families about the implication of second hand smoke exposure during pregnancy.

**Abstract History:**
This abstract has not been presented or accepted for presentation in whole or in part at the SNRS or other scientific meeting.

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