Systematic extraction of diagnostic data items for common high-risk pregnancies using Delphi technique

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Abstract

Introduction: The quality of clinical decisions being made every day by on-call physicians are totally based on the quality of medical information they receive during telephone consultations with residents. Some basic factors such as the right selection of medical items, type and format, and also the volume of such information may highly affect the quality of remote consultations. Therefore, developing a trusted standard model for such clinical communication seems vital. In this research, we used Delphi technique to develop a set of information items in form of clinical decision archetypes to standardize teleconsultation in high-risk pregnancies.

Methods: A multi-stage cross-sectional study was conducted to exploit the diagnostic items for the most common high-risk pregnancies in three obstetrics and gynecology department of educational hospitals, Mashhad, Iran.

Results: Our study revealed eclampsia/preeclampsia, hemorrhage, PROM, pre-term and post-term delivery as the most common high-risk pregnancies in the hospitals being studied. 189 clinically-important items were extracted from scientific references and then hand-filtered to 128 items by the participating gynecology and obstetrics experts. The final items were categorized into five classes including general information, chief complaint / current problem, medical history, clinical examination, and paraclinic tests.

Conclusion: In this study, a set of clinical decision archetype was developed to improve the decisions being made in high risk pregnancies.

Keywords: High-risk pregnancy, medical consultation, remote consultation

1. Declaration of conflicts

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2. Authors' biography

No biography.

3. References

No references.