

Spontaneous Preterm Labor/ Premature Rupture Of Fetal Membranes SPL/PROM: HIGHER ASSOCIATION WITH LOW SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

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BACKGROUND:

Different studies have already shown some form of correlation between low socio-economic standards and increased rate of spontaneous preterm labor (SPL). The specific incidence of premature rupture of fetal membranes (PROM) in these cases is not yet well-defined. The target of this work was to investigate the correlation between the socio-economic status and PROM in our Upper Egyptian Society.

MATERIAL/METHODS:

Laboring women in three maternity clinics in Upper Egypt between 2013 and 2015 were included in this cross-sectional study. Rate of PROM and SPL (16 to 36 weeks of gestation) was calculated for different socio-economic strata, and the confounding variables were statistically evaluated using Poisson regression.

RESULTS:

Out of the 5003 singleton gravidas included in the study, 313 (6.2%) had PROM and SPL. PROM/SPL was more prevalent in women of low socioeconomic standards, (prevalence ratio [PR] =2.31), lower education level (PR=2.43), hemoglobin level <10g/dl (PR= 1.94), lower genital tract infection (PR= 2.11) and history of previous PROM or SPL (PR=2.30). There was no preference for maternal age or parity.

CONCLUSIONS:

SPL/PROM tends to be more prevalent amongst women of lower socio-economic standards. This might be positively correlated with poor nutritional level and higher incidence of genital infection. These primary and secondary factors are to be considered in the plan for prophylaxis.

Keywords: Socio-economic, Labor, Preterm

1. Declaration of conflicts

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2. Authors' biography

No Biography

3. REFERENCES

No references