

## Knowledge among Women about the Method of Delivery in Albatool Teaching Hospital in Baquba City

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### Abstract

**Background:** Most of the doctors interested in cesarean section and the techniques relate to these processes. This study aimed to assess the knowledge of women about the method of delivery in Albatool Teaching Hospital.

**Objective:** To study the preferred methods of delivery among women in relation to certain epidemiological criteria.

**Patients and Methods:** Across sectional study was conducted among women attending in Albatool teaching hospital including all the women from 1st January during March 2018.

**Results:** Among 200 women who included in the study, 68.5% of them preferred the vaginal delivery while the rest preferred the cesarean delivery. In the same context, 57.2% of the age group below 20 years preferred cesarean delivery, while the age group above 20 years, preferred vaginal delivery with a percentage of more than 62.7%. On the other hand, the opinions of the working women and housewife were preferred vaginal delivery with percentages 53% and 84% respectively.

**Conclusion:** The results indicated that most women tend to participate with their own doctor in decision-making on the type of delivery.

**Keywords:** Knowledge, Women, Mode of delivery.

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### Introduction

Natural childbirth and its mechanism is so old, spontaneous; and it does not need any complex intervention. The development in medical technology contributed in reduction the numbers of the maternal and infant mortality rate . However improper use of these interventions without scientific and legal reasons has converted a normal delivery

to the surgical and medical phenomenon[1]. The organizational models of public and private services vary, as do work relationships between healthcare professionals and treatment, which results in different hospital experiences for pregnant women[2].

Most women still prefer to have natural deliveries at governmental hospitals, and cesareans at private maternity clinics[3].

The increase in numbers of cesarean section concerns to many international organizations. World health organization declared that there are no justifying for any region to have a cesarean section more than 10-15% [4]. The cause of increased cesarean section rate is multi-factorial and the decision to deliver by cesarean section depends on a variety of factors including previous cesarean section, multiple gestations, malpresentation, fetal distress, failure of progress during labor and maternal medical conditions [5].

The sin of Eve, that was mentioned in Biblical book, influenced deeply in a brain of mankind “in pain shall you bring forth children”[6]. This belief makes pregnant women avoid pain and prefers the cesareans section.

Non-medical reasons also encourage pregnant women to prefer caesarean than normal labor. These reasons such as the pain of delivery, unsuitable time and date for this labor. In addition, there is an opinion says that the cesarean keep and protect the baby’s brain[7].

The fast recovery after the natural delivery is the main reason that make pregnant women prefer this type of delivery than the cesarean section, in spite of there were recommendations in 47.5% from the medical side to choose the cesareans section[8]. This study aimed to assess the knowledge of women about the mode of delivery. Aim of study: It aims to study knowledge of women in Baquba about the prefer method of delivery.

### Patients and Methods

This study was conducted in Baquba – Albatool teaching hospital as a cross-sectional study started from the 1st of January during March in 2018. Especial question includes (women’s age, blood group, occupation, resident, number of parity, any complication during delivery, and what favorite type of delivery). Information was collected by the researcher during the interview with each woman.

### Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis was done by computer and the data were analyzed by percentage, numbers and proportion.

### Results

**Table (1):** Distribution of women according to the preferred type of delivery

Type of delivery	NO.	%
Vaginal delivery	137	68.5%
Cesarean delivery	63	31.5%
Total	200	100%

Depending on women’s interview, majority of women 68.5% preferred vaginal delivery

while a few numbers of women 31.5% preferred cesarean delivery.

**Table (2):** Distribution of women according to their age and preferred type of delivery

Age	No.	Vaginal delivery	%	Cesarean delivery	%
<20	14	6	42.8%	8	57.2%
20-29	75	47	62.7%	28	37.3%
30-39	70	50	71.4%	20	28.6%
≥40	41	34	82.9%	7	17.1%
total	200	137	68.5%	63	31.5%

Depending on this table, the age group less than 20 years, 42.8% preferred vaginal delivery and other 57.2% preferred cesarean. The age group (20-29), 62.7% preferred vaginal delivery and other 37.3% preferred cesarean. The age group (30-39), 71.4% preferred vaginal delivery and the other

28.6% preferred cesarean. The age group for more than 40 years, 82.9% preferred vaginal delivery and other 17.1% preferred cesarean. The total percentage in Table (2) proved that more than double of them preferred the vaginal delivery over cesarean delivery.

**Table (3):** Distribution of women according to the occupation in relation to the mode of delivery

occupation	No.	Vaginal delivery	%	Cesarean delivery	%
working	83	53	63.8%	30	36.1%
House wife	117	84	71.7%	33	28.3%
total	200	137	68.5%	63	31.5%

According to this table, the majority of official women (63.8%) preferred vaginal delivery while the (36.1%) preferred cesarean delivery. And the majority of housewife

women 71.7% preferred vaginal delivery while the other 28.3% preferred cesarean delivery.

**Table (4):** Distribution of women according to their residency

Residency	No.	Vaginal delivery	%	Cesarean delivery	%
urban	99	66	66.7%	33	33.3%
rural	101	71	70.3%	30	29.7%
total	200	137	68.5%	63	31.5%

According to this table, the majority of urban women 66.7% preferred vaginal delivery while the other women 33.3% preferred cesarean delivery. And the majority

of rural women 70.3% preferred vaginal delivery and the other women 29.7% preferred cesarean delivery.

**Table (5):** Distribution of women according to the parity

parity	No.	Vaginal delivery	%	Cesarean delivery	%
Para1	40	25	62.5%	15	37.5%
Para2	36	22	61.1%	14	38.9%
Para3	39	22	56.4%	17	43.6%
Para4 and more	85	68	80%	17	20%
Total	200	137	68.5%	63	31.5%

**Table (6):** Distribution of the mother according the previous delivery complication

obstetrics complication	No.	Vaginal delivery	%	Cesarean delivery	%
positive	71	42	59.1%	29	40.9%
negative	129	95	73.6%	34	26.4%
total	200	137	68.5%	63	31.5%

According to this table, 59.2% of women who have the previous complication preferred vaginal delivery while 40.8% preferred cesarean delivery. And decreased percent of preferred cesarean delivery 26.4% in previous non-complicated women while 73.6% preferred vaginal delivery.

## Discussion

The sources of knowledge of these women, in this study, were from their relatives or friends; therefore they have the same Iraqi society knowledge. where, the traditional view here regard the vaginal delivery is best than cesarean section, because the time of healing after the vaginal delivery is less than a cesarean section. In addition to that, the society considers the cesarean section is a deviation from the normal way and accompanying bleeding risks and higher costs. Similar results were seen by Aali et al[9].

In developing countries, lower education level is responsible for poorer Knowledge of

human reproduction than women in developed countries [1] The present study showed that 63.8% of occupational women preferred vaginal delivery while others preferred cesarean delivery. This Can be explained based on the fact that in Diyala, traditional Views in illiterate society prefer to have deliveries by indigenous ladies on the grounds of privacy.

This preference, according to some authors is related to those who could Not afford cesarean section But the present study revealed that the majority of women did not consider the economy as the factor for vaginal delivery over surgery [11]. In the present study, the majority of women (68.5%) preferred vaginal mode of delivery because they believed that it enhances the affectionate relationship between mother and baby.

Women who preferred vaginal delivery generally felt that vaginal delivery is a natural and acceptable way of delivery and

women who preferred cesarean delivery felt that CSs were safer and less painful. Similar findings were reported by Adageba et al in Ghana [12].

The association between maternal age and positive attitude towards CS in the current pregnancy, where 57.2% of studied women in younger age (less than 20) years had a positive attitude towards CS in the current pregnancy. This might be related to the belief in some families that young women at marriage have a small pelvis that is not suitable for vaginal delivery. However, older age groups showed a positive attitude towards v\|d in current pregnancy which goes with other studies in which advanced marital age is a contributing factor in increasing the CS rate. These findings are in agreement with Lin HC et al in Taiwan who reported that women younger than 25 years likely to request for CS delivery and those older than were more less likely to request for CS delivery [13].

The trending to the CS in current pregnancy was also related to; a number of previous CS, low educational levels of women's husbands and women having no children. These findings are close to those reported by Richard et al [14] study in Northern Ghana.

## Conclusions

Most of pregnant women prefer vaginally, while the majority women that have shortage in knowledge or excessive fear wanted to undergo a cesarean sections. The reasons for cesarean delivery is a fear of labor pain. An important step in controlling the rising

cesarean birth rate in developing countries is providing better information on pregnant women and their partners during the antenatal period about modes of Delivery, their indications, advantages, and adverse consequences.

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