

Faculty of Health Sciences

Final Examination Paper, August 2020

TITLE Applied
COURSE CODE Applied Research and Evidence-Based Practice
DURATION TWO (2) HOURS
TOTAL MARKS 75 MARKS

MWF 452

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS
2. FIGURES IN BRACKETS REFLECT MARKS ALLOCATED TO EACH QUESTION OR PART OF A QUESTION
3. ANSWER EACH QUESTION IN A NEW PAGE
4. DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR

Question 1

Select the most appropriate response in each of the following questions. In your answer book, write only the question number and letter depicting your choice (e.g. 1.1a)

- 1.1 Which of the following would be considered a source of evidence for midwifery practice?
 - a. A national newspaper
 - b. An international magazine
 - c. A peer reviewed journal
 - d. An international journal which has been in circulation for at least 10 years
- 1.2 Publications on predatory journals are doubtful because;
 - a. They take a very short time to be published
 - b. They are expensive
 - c. They are free to access
 - d. They are new in science
- 1.3 In sub-Saharan Africa, evidence based practice is challenged because?
 - a. It is always expensive to implement
 - b. Practitioners may not be aware of its existence
 - c. Policies are usually against its implementation
 - d. No-one knows how to implement it
- 1.4 In sub-Saharan Africa, best practice is practiced because...
 - a. Everyone knows what best practice is
 - b. Customary practice is more important
 - c. It is feasible to implement
 - d. It is as good as other practices
- 1.5 Which of the following is a barrier to the utilization of evidence in midwifery practice?
 - a. Limited access to the internet
 - b. Inadequate numbers of supportive staff
 - c. Supportive managers
 - d. Motivated midwifery staff

Questions 1.6 to 1.10 relate to the hierarchy of evidence;

- 1.6 Which of the following research designs yields the strongest evidence?
 - a. Cohort study
 - b. Randomised controlled trials
 - c. Survey
 - d. Pre and post study design
- 1.7 From the following, which evidence would you trust the most?
 - a. Experts in the field
 - b. case control study
 - c. A meta-analysis
 - d. An ethnographic study
- 1.8 To establish infant feeding practices in a community, which of the following would you undertake?
 - a. A randomised controlled trial
 - b. A scoping review
 - c. A grounded theory
 - d. An ethnography
- 1.9 To establish effectiveness of a midwifery procedure, you would;

- a. Perform a systematic review of randomised controlled trials on the procedure
- b. Perform a systematic review of non-randomised controlled trials on the procedure
- c. Perform a qualitative enquiry on experts with clinical experience on the procedure
- d. Perform cross-sectional observation studies to record client responses on the procedure

1.10 Which of the following would be the most rigorous method to establish causality in midwifery practice?

- a. Experimental study
- b. Quasi-experimental study
- c. non-randomised trial
- d. cohort study

Lucy works in a busy maternity unit of a referral hospital. The Covid-19 lockdown has been in place in the past 4 weeks. The hospital is exploring ways to cope with high numbers of patients from the disease and the usual high number of births using evidence based practice principles. Questions 1.11 to 1.15 relate to this scenario;

1.11 Which of the following is the best ways to care for women intrapartum?

- a. Give all women caesarean sections to expedite birth
- b. Give all women assisted births to expedite delivery
- c. Explore what other hospitals in other settings are doing to help make a judgement speedily
- d. Initiate an observation study on the outcomes of pregnancy during Covid-19 to inform practice

1.12 The best way to stay abreast with the evolution of maternity care during this time as a maternity unit is to;

- a. The hospital should subscribe to a research database of Covid-19
- b. The maternity unit should start an in-house weekly journal club to stimulate reading by staff
- c. Lucy should encourage fellow midwives to pursue higher degrees of education to remain cutting edge
- d. There should be a monthly reward for the midwife that comes up with innovative ways of giving maternity care during this time

1.13 When new ways of doing things in midwifery practice emerge, the hospital should;

- a. Only implement them if the budget is favourable
- b. Consider full implementation immediately as it will be supported by evidence
- c. Perform a context analysis to see how best to implement it
- d. Check the strength of the evidence before considering implementation

1.14 As a midwifery expert, what would you advise hospital management?

- a. To shut down the maternity unit and focus on respiratory illnesses to relieve the hospital of workload pressure
- b. To temporarily create an ICU just for maternity for obstetric emergencies
- c. To pool all ICU resources into 1 big unit for all hospital emergencies
- d. To let things be and observe how Covid-19 disease will pan out

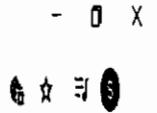
1.15 The hospital executive management asks Lucy for solutions and best a practice strategy for the maternity unit during the Covid-19 lockdown. Which of the following would be Lucy's best response?

- a. First perform a meta-synthesis to determine what needs to be done in practice
- b. First perform a meta-analysis to determine what needs to be done in practice
- c. Initiate an in-house situation analysis study to determine gaps in practice
- d. Perform a literature review and engage stakeholders to come up with a practice strategy

Consider the images of a journal article extract below. Questions 1.16 to 2.20 relate to it

Dr. Lester Sumral - The Gre X COVID-19 immunity passports X houses to let mabane - Google X Barriers to Early Prenatal Care X

pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26439856/



Int J Gynaecol Obstet. 2016 Jan;132(1):64-7. doi: 10.1016/j.ijgo.2015.06.041. Epub 2015 Sep 21.

FULL TEXT LINKS



Barriers to Early Prenatal Care in South Africa

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Affiliations + expand

PMID: 26439856 DOI: 10.1016/j.ijgo.2015.06.041

ACTIONS



Abstract

Objective: To understand the barriers delaying early prenatal care for women in South Africa.

Methods: A mixed-methods study was conducted at a center in Pretoria.

Results: Following interviews with 21 women at a prenatal clinic in Pretoria, a quantitative survey was completed by 204 postpartum women. During interviews, women described presenting late owing to contemplating induced abortion, fear of HIV testing, and fear of jealousy and bewitching. The survey results demonstrated that a majority of women (133 [65.2%]) reported knowledge of recommendations to present before 12 weeks; however, the average gestational age at initial presentation was 19.1±7.7 weeks. Women were more likely to present earlier if the pregnancy was planned (P=0.013) and were less likely to if they had at any point contemplated induced abortion (P=0.021). Fears of bewitching and harmful psychological stress owing to a positive HIV test result prevailed in both the interviews and the surveys.

Conclusion: Significant efforts should be devoted to improving access to contraception and pre-pregnancy counseling in order to improve early prenatal care attendance. Similarly, addressing cultural concerns and fears regarding pregnancy is imperative in promoting early attendance.

Keywords: Access to care; HIV; Maternal mortality; Mixed-methods study; Obstetrics; Prenatal care; South Africa; Sub-Saharan Africa.

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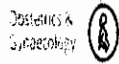
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Barriers to early prenatal care in South Africa†

Diane N. Haddad, Jennifer D. Makin, Robert C. Pattinson, Brian W. Forsyth

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† The qualitative portion of this study was presented at the 33rd annual Priorities in Perinatal Care Conference, March 2014, Cape Town, South Africa. The quantitative portion was presented at the 34th annual Priorities in Perinatal Care Conference, March 2015, Drakensburg, South Africa.

Read the full text >



Abstract

Objective

To understand the barriers delaying early prenatal care for women in South Africa

Seazland_report_...pdf

Show all X

1.16 Who among the following is the lead author

- a. Diane Haddad
- b. Jennifer Makin
- c. Robert Pattinson
- d. Brian Forsyth

1.17 Who among the following is the corresponding author?

- a. Diane Haddad
- b. Jennifer Makin
- c. Robert Pattinson
- d. Brian Forsyth

- 1.18 Which of the following was the most significant barrier to prenatal care?
- Contemplation of abortion
 - Un-planned pregnancy
 - Fears of being bewitched
 - Harmful psychological stress
- 1.19 What was the study design used in this paper?
- Qualitative enquiry
 - Longitudinal design
 - Quantitative enquiry
 - Prospective design
- 1.20 One of the following statements are true regarding this paper. Which one is it?
- Fear of being tested for HIV was the most prominent reason for not presenting early for ANC
 - Fear of being jealousy and being bewitched was the 2nd most important reason for presenting late for ANC
 - The majority of women did not know about the importance of presenting early for ANC
 - The setting of this study was a low and middle income country
- 1.21 Which of the following is the name of the journal in which you can access the full text PDF?
- Wiley
 - Wiley & Sons Journal
 - International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology
 - International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics

Notsile has just joined a referral hospital maternity unit, and encountered a 21 year old woman with mental illness in labour for the first time. Noting that perinatal care of women with mental illnesses was not covered in her basic midwifery training, Notsile sought a hospital policy on the best midwifery care approach she could use and found none. Notsile has since decided to investigate this subject with a view to come up with midwifery practice insights in such circumstances. Questions 1.21 to 1.25 relate to this scenario;

- 1.22 Which of the following would be an approach research topic for Notsile's study?
- Lived realities of women with mental illnesses and their perinatal care
 - Perinatal outcomes of women with perinatal illnesses
 - A scoping review on the perinatal care of women with mental illnesses
 - The cost of out of pocket perinatal care among women with perinatal illnesses
- 1.23 To study this subject, Notsile should
- Only consider mixed method studies
 - Overhaul the existing hospital policy on midwifery care of women with mental illnesses
 - Perform a desk review on mental illness and maternity care
 - Start a journal club on maternity care
- 1.24 Experts that could give insights on evidence based midwifery care to best care for the mentally ill woman would be?
- Psychologists
 - Obstetricians

- c. Psychiatrists
- d. Advanced midwives

- 1.25 Since the woman is mentally ill and there are no guidelines in place, Notsile should;
- a. Ask the mentally ill woman to consent to participate in an observational study
 - b. Be a witness to the woman being asked to give a written consent for sterilization
 - c. Conduct a systematic literature review on women with mental illness before attempting to care for the woman
 - d. Treat the woman as normal as far as possible, and only intervene where the mental illness becomes a barrier to her wellbeing and care

[25 marks]

Question 2

Describe the considerations you would make in a critique of a scholarly journal article. **[25 marks]**

Question 3

Discuss how you would establish research rigour in quantitative studies. Make examples to illustrate responses. **[25 marks]**