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Survey the Associated Factors with Incompetent Cervix in Pregnant Women

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Abstract

Introduction: Incompetent cervix is a gradual and painless dilatation of cervix that can cause loss of pregnancy with inducing recurrent abortion or preterm labor, 20-25% of preterm labors are associated with Incompetent cervix. This illness can cause physical and psychological disorder for mother and so long illness or costly care for neonates. Thus early diagnosis of incompetent cervix and assessment of its associated factors is very important.

Objective: Determine the frequency of some associated factors with incompetent cervix.

Materials and Methods: This descriptive cross-sectional study was done on 90 patients (from September 2004 till August 2005) who showed the Incompetent cervix on the basis of history, clinical examination and vaginal sonography or was done cerclage. Data was collected by questionnaire and was analyzed.

Results: The frequency of Nulipar mothers (43.3%) was more than Primipars and Multipars. Mean cervix length was 27.9 mm. The most frequency in associated factors belonged to abortion (70%) and then D&C (48.4%). (45.5%) of patients had abortion and curettage simultaneously. Frequency was in multiple gestation 7.5%, cryo 6.7%, rupture of cervix 5.6%, conization 2.2% and nobody had history of cauterization.

Conclusion: An analytic comparative study is recommended for more considering associated factors with incompetent cervix. This study showed that we must avoid of unnessassary dilatiation and curettage and improve our skills and so use of chemic dilators as prostaglandins for preventing of incompetent cervix.

Key words: Cervix Incompetence/ Pregnancy/ Risk Factor