Participation in Perinatal Interventional Research: Which Characteristics Matter?

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Objectives

Identify characteristics of pregnant women that are associated with the decision to participate in perinatal interventional research.

Methods

• A retrospective cohort study of two interventional trials conducted on Labor and Delivery
  – Study 1: patient-blinded, randomized trial of an adhesion barrier at the time of cesarean delivery
  – Study 2: non-blinded, randomized trial of discontinuation of oxytocin during induction of labor once in active labor

• Demographic, medical, and obstetric data were collected from medical records and compared based on participation.

• Stepwise logistic regression was performed to identify independent predictors of study participation controlling for the specific study.

Results

• 605 subjects screened eligible to participate
  – 363 (60%) agreed to participate
  – 242 (40%) declined participation
  – Participation rates were similar for both studies (~60%)

• Stepwise logistic regression (R²=0.18)
  – Prior obstetrical complications (aOR: 0.6 (95% CI: 0.4, 0.8))
  – History of hypertension (aOR: 3.8 (95% CI: 1.0, 13.4))
  – History of mental health condition (aOR: 1.5 (95% CI: 1.0, 2.3))

Conclusions

• Small differences exist between pregnant women who agreed and declined to participate in perinatal interventional trials.

• The most important predictors of participation were prior obstetrical complications (less likely to participate) and history of hypertension and mental health condition (more likely to participate).

• These data may help when developing strategies to improve recruitment for clinical research on Labor and Delivery.