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A Study of adequacy of informed consent before caesarean section in a tertiary care hospital

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Abstract:

Aim: Informed consent is an ethical and legal requirement and is practiced before all the surgical procedures. It consists of availing information to the patient in an understandable manner without coercion to allow the patient to make an informed decision about their healthcare. So, this study was aimed to assess the adequacy of informed consent in patients who underwent caesarean section at SMGS Hospital, Government Medical College, Jammu. **Material and Methods:** A cross-sectional study was done. The study population was the group of patients who underwent emergency or elective caesarean section at GMC, Jammu. A total of 230 patients were included in the study based on inclusion and exclusion criteria. The data were expressed as percentage of proportion. **Results:** 230 patients participated in the study. About 73.04% patients were in the age group of 21-30 years, only about 20.86% patients were above 30 years of age. About 30.43% were educated upto middle standard and 23.04% patients were educated upto 12th standard. Majority of the patients (64.78%) belonged to rural areas and 35.21% belonged to urban areas. About 79.13% patients underwent emergency LSCS while 20.80% patients underwent elective caesarean section. About 96.95% patients knew the name of the procedure. 91.73% patients were informed about the indication of the surgery. 95.21% of the patients were aware about the benefits of surgery and about 93.41% of the patients were knowing risks of surgery. About 83.04% patients were informed about the procedure of the surgery. pregnancy options. **Conclusion:** The majority of the caesarean sections were performed due to some emergency indications. It was found that majority of the patients were well informed about the procedure and the related consequences.

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