INTRA-FAMILY VIOLENCE AS FACTOR ASSOCIATED WITH LOW BIRTH WEIGHT

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Introduction Abuse during pregnancy is considered to be a potentially modifiable risk factor for child outcomes such as low birth weight (LBW), small for gestational age and preterm birth.

Objectives To identify risk factors associated with LBW; analyse the association between intra family violence during pregnancy and unfavorable outcomes, measured by LBW.

Materials and Methods A hospital base was performed, case control study of 50 newborns weighted 2500 gram or less and 100 control newborns patients without low weight to evaluate associations between intra family violence and LBW. Multivariate logistic regression models were used for case control comparisons.

Results Data on violence in the current pregnancy reflects differences found between cases and controls, depending on scale: verbally or economically abused: 58% cases and controls with 23.3% OR 21.63 (CI 95% 7.33 to 67.17), slapping: cases 22% and controls 1% OR 27.92, CI 95% (3.52 to 597.93), injuries: cases 12% and controls 0%. OR and CI 95%, undefined.

Conclusions Domestic violence as a risk factor, leading to serious consequences for the physical, mental and reproductive health of women and may also has serious effects on the health of their children.

Mothers who experience violence during pregnancy are 21 times more likely to give birth to low-birth-weight babies.