Prevalence of Anemia Among Pregnant Women in Mosul City

Abstract

Anemia is a substantial public health problem in many developing countries and has been associated with a range of adverse consequences including poor mental development, reduced productivity, maternal mortality, and low birth weight. The present study aimed to identify the prevalence of anemia among pregnant women in Mosul city, to examine the relationship between hemoglobin level of the participants and their some demographic characteristics, to categories the severity of anemia among pregnant women in Mosul city as well as, to identify the risk factors associated with anemia. Across-sectional study, Cluster sampling was adopted in data collection in this investigation as the clusters of elements were the selected health centers in various sites in Mosul city, Sample selected by across-sectional method. The study has been conducted during a period of six months extending from 1st December 2008 to the end of 1st June, 2009. Data were collected from antenatal recorder and using questionnaire through out interview technique for all pregnant women who visited the primary health care centers. The variables of the questionnaire and methods used by the investigator were explained briefly with all women in a simple way. The hemoglobin level was measured in the laboratory of AL-Batoul Teaching Hospital, which is related to Nineveh Health Office using the official permission. The packed cell volume (micro-meter) was used. The information regarding each woman was transferred into code sheet and data entry was done using SPSS version (16). The present study revealed that the (50.47%) of sample were anemic according to World Health Organization categories; (33.54%) of them had severe to moderate anemia and (66.46%) of them had mild anemia. Based on the results of the present study, their interpretation and discussion, the study concluded that anemia in pregnant women in Mosul city categorized as a severe problem and the study showed Women's educational level, pregnancy stages, and compliance of supplementations were identified as a risk factors for anemia. Finally, the researcher recommended that developing improved screening methods through the use of geographic information systems, identifying primary prevention interventions that are effective in reducing anemia, and evaluating the effectiveness of dietary interventions.