ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to explore the predicting factors for selecting the mode of delivery (MOD) among the women of Lahore. Over the course of the study period, the recruitment of a sample of 399 expectant women (who were ready for delivery or who delivered their baby currently) was done. The overall modes of delivery are as (61.4%) women underwent for cesarean and 38.6% delivered vaginally. We estimated the association between mode of delivery and burgeoning maternal risk drivers. Chi-square analysis was used for comparison of baseline characteristics, delivery outcomes and mode of delivery. Findings of Chi-square analysis demonstrated that the women with secondary education, whose husbands can afford cesarean section expenses, maternal age, weight, residential area, women who selected the CS as the preferred MOD during pregnancy due to reliability of her baby's health and repeated CS are more likely to undergo cesarean section. Logistic regression analysis was executed by including only those predictors that were found significant (p-value ≤ 0.05) in bivariate chi-square analysis. Odd ratios and 95% confidence interval were computed to estimate predicting factors. In the domain of organizational and biological factors the findings of the binary Logistic regression reveals that the odds of CS among the women, who preferred a private hospital for delivery, who were suggested by physician for CS, who were lazy to perform walk during pregnancy (at least half an hour), Meconium Aspiration Syndrome, fetal distress, maternal anemia and abnormal presentation of baby were significantly higher than their counterparts. Among all the factors, the indications of the organizational predictors (hospital level and physician's suggestion) were more influential drivers in predicting the MOD among women. Since choice about mode of delivery is a "negotiation process" between the carriers mother, her family, and physician. Therefore, further detailed and comprehensive study is required to incorporate more perspectives from numerous sides to explore the assessment process inclusively.

Key Word:

Mode of delivery, expectant mother, cesarean section, normal vaginal delivery