

Perception of Family Sense of Coherence during the Perinatal Period

Ngai Fei Wan

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

ABSTRACT

Objectives: Family sense of coherence has been identified as an important resource that contributes to family resilience and influences positive family functioning and well-being. This study explored childbearing couples' perception of family sense of coherence and strategies that could help strengthen their sense of family coherence during parental transition. **Methods:** A grounded theory was developed to explore childbearing couples' perception of family sense of coherence. A purposive sample of 24 Chinese childbearing couples was interviewed in-depth at the antenatal clinics of a regional hospital. Data were analysed using constant comparison procedures. **Results:** An overarching basic social psychological process of "challenges, communication and compromise" was identified. The pregnancy involved major changes in roles and responsibilities. Both couples attempted to readjust their family lives through the process of open communication and compromise. Couples came to gain a sense of family coherence through changes in their world views concerning their family life, and an appreciation of the positive contributions made by the fetus to the family as a whole. **Conclusions:** The results indicate the fundamental importance of family sense of coherence in enabling childbearing couples to readjust their lives during parental transition. The findings from this study can provide direction for developing culturally sensitive and competent interventions to strengthen family sense of coherence and improve parental and fetal well-being in the Chinese communities.

Caesarean Myomectomy: Case Series

Kah Pin Low¹, Shu Shien Yong²

¹Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, New Putra Specialist Hospital, Batu Pahat, Johor, Malaysia, ²Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Hospital Enche' Besar Hajjah Khalsom, Kluang, Johor, Malaysia

ABSTRACT

Background: Myomectomy during Caesarean section had been traditionally shunned upon due to risk of unwanted hysterectomy from uncontrolled haemorrhage from myomectomy. However, with careful patients' selection and good surgical management, we were keen to review the surgical, maternal and neonatal outcomes of said surgery. **Methods:** We reviewed 3 medical records of ladies who underwent Caesarean myomectomy in district hospital of Kluang and Putra Specialist Hospital. The medical case notes were reviewed. Mothers' demographics, maternal and neonatal outcomes and surgical details recorded. **Findings:** Madam X, 24 years old primigravida underwent Caesarean myomectomy at 38 weeks gestation for Class 3 fibroid measuring 15 cm at anterior lower segment. Madam Y, 32 years old primigravida, underwent Caesarean myomectomy at 38 weeks gestation. Three Class 5 fibroids sized 1.5 cm, 1.7 cm and 4.2 cm at anterior fundal uterus were removed. Madam Z, 32 years old primigravida, underwent Caesarean myomectomy at 41 weeks gestation. Two Class 5 fibroids measuring 4.5 cm and 1.5 cm removed from anterior uterus. All three operations lasted 45 to 68 mins with blood loss of 300-750 mls. Incision to delivery time was normal at 7-10 mins but prolonged at 22 mins for Madam X as myomectomy performed before delivery. Postoperatively, their haemoglobin dropped 0.5-1.5 g/dl and all mothers were discharged after 42-48 hours post op. Neonatal outcomes were comparable, with birth weight of 2.7-4.1 kg, with good APGAR scores without any NICU admission. **Conclusion:** In experienced surgeon's hand and careful patient selection considering the size and location of the myomas, caesarean myomectomy can be a safe procedure to undertake.