Knowledge, attitude and perception towards caesarean section among Malaysian women

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Caesarean section is a common surgery performed in our field, however, there were still women who did not accept this procedure when necessary. One of the reasons may be due to a lack of knowledge on the caesarean section itself. This study aims to assess the knowledge, attitude and perception towards the caesarean section among Malaysian women and investigate the association socio-demographic factors with the level of knowledge, attitude and perception towards the caesarean section among Malaysian women. Methods: A cross-sectional study and convenience sampling involving women who gave birth in Malaysia between March 2020 and March 2021 were conducted. Self-administrative online questionnaires were distributed via proxies. The sociodemographic factors, perception and birth experience were described using descriptive analyses. The non-parametric Pearson chi-squared test, Fisher’s exact test, simple and multiple logistic regressions were used to test the association between sociodemographic factors and the perception of women towards companions in labour and their birth experience during Covid-19. Results: Of the 400 respondents, 86.8% of women had a positive perception towards companions in labour and 74.5% of women had a negative birth experience during Covid-19. There was no significant association between sociodemographic factors and the women’s perception towards companions in labour and their birth experience during Covid-19. Conclusion: The number of women having a companion in labour during the Covid-19 pandemic was greatly reduced. Their perceptions towards companions in labour were positive. However, their birth experiences were negatively affected by the pandemic, regardless of their sociodemographic factors.

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