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PREVALENCE OF URINARY INCONTINENCE AFTER DELIVERY AND ITS RELATION TO THE MODE OF DELIVERY

Hypothesis / aims of study

To estimate the prevalence of urinary incontinence and its type in relation to the mode of delivery based on history only.

Study design, materials and methods

The study includes 800 women who delivered either vaginally or by cesarean section and served as the study group while 200 nulliparparous women were served as the control group. All women were asked about urinary incontinence and if present, about its frequency, amount and circumstance. A severity index was used to characterize the degree of incontinence.

Results

Any incontinence was more frequent in the vaginal delivery group and cesarean section group than in nulliparous group (24.1, 20 and 11% respectively).

Interpretation of results

The prevalence of stress incontinence and mixed type incontinence were higher in the vaginal delivery group than cesarean section group and higher in cesarean section group than nulliparous group. There was nearly no difference in the prevalence of urge incontinence among all groups.

Concluding message

Our study demonstrated an increased prevalence of stress and mixed type urinary incontinence among women who have delivered by cesarean section as compared with nulliparous women and a further increase among women who have had vaginal deliveries. However, these results should not be used as an argument for increased use of cesarean delivery.

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Is this a clinical trial?	No
What were the subjects in the study?	NONE