

Research Article

## A Correlational Study on Perception Regarding Family Support and Utilization of Maternal Services among Antenatal Mothers in Selected Hospital, Hoshiarpur, Punjab

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**ABSTRACT**

**Background:** *The wealth of the nation is its healthy population. Today's children are tomorrow's citizen who should be healthy. The mother's contribution in creating a healthy population is beyond explaining. The mother must be prepared physically, emotionally and socially to bring forth a healthy child.*

**Objective of the Study:** *The study aimed at awareing the antenatal mothers about perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services.*

**Material and Method:** *A Correlational study was conducted to assess the perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers at Civil Hospital, Hoshiarpur, Punjab. Purposive sampling was done to obtain a sample of 60 antenatal mothers in month of December 2011. Rating scale and checklist was prepared to assess the perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers. The data was gathered and analyzed by using statistical techniques such as mean score, mean percentage, standard deviation (SD), Karl Pearson's coefficient of correlation, 't' test and analysis of variance (ANOVA).*

**Findings:** *The findings showed that majority 100% of antenatal mothers had positive feeling on perception regarding family support and utilized adequate maternal services. The correlation between perception and utilization among antenatal mothers was positive ( $r=0.19$ ). Gravida and source of information had significant impact on the perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers. Age, level of education, occupation, education of husband, occupation of husband, family monthly income, place of residence and PHC availability had no impact on perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers. Source of information had significant impact on the utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers. Age, level of education, occupation, gravida, education of husband, occupation of husband, family monthly income, place of residence and PHC availability had no impact on utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers.*

**Conclusion:** *Numerous opinions are being expressed about perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers, but mothers are not aware enough about either one. Researcher's findings call attention to the need for more research.*

**INTRODUCTION**

The wealth of the nation is its healthy population. Today's children are tomorrow's citizen who

should be healthy. The mother's contribution in creating a healthy population is beyond explaining. The mother must be prepared

physically, emotionally and socially to bring forth a healthy child. Pregnancy and childbirth are special events in women's lives, and, indeed, in the lives of their families. This can be a time of great hope and joyful anticipation. As pregnancy is the gestational process, it comprises of the growth and development with a woman of a new individual from conception through the embryonic and fetal periods to birthing environments.<sup>1,2</sup>

During pregnancy a women needs a great support. Therefore, support must be individualized and tailored to the woman's changing needs during labour. There are five general categories of support they found helpful during labour. Emotional support includes physical presence and words of affirmation, reassurance, encouragement and praise. Information and advice ensure that the women are aware of what is happening and of techniques that may help her to cope. Advocacy, such as supporting her decisions and asking others to respect them, conveys to the woman the centrality of her role in decisions about her case, supporting to her partner includes role modeling encouragement and offering periods of respite.<sup>3</sup>

Utilization of health care services by the women in general and during pregnancy, delivery and postpartum period in particular has been an important component of the present RCH program in the country. Maternal and child health services are essentially promotive and preventive. They provide avenues for the early detection of mothers and infants at high risk of morbidity and mortality. The health of the mother and child constitutes a major part of the community health, particularly in the developing countries. Maternal and child health have seen a spectrum of changes, according to the need of the community.<sup>4,5</sup>

**Statement of the problem:** A correlational study on perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers in selected hospital, Hoshiarpur, Punjab.

### Objectives

- To assess the perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers

- To assess utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers
- To find out the correlation between the perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers
- To find out the relationship of perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers with selected variables
- To find out the relationship of utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers with selected variables

### Assumption

- The women who are having positive perception regarding family support will have better utilization of maternal services.

### Conceptual Framework

For the present study the conceptual framework was used based on Goal attainment theory by Imogene King.

## METHODOLOGY

### Research Approach

A quantitative research approach was considered to be appropriate by keeping in view the nature of problem and was used to assess the perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers.

### Research Design

For the present study, non-experimental correlational research design was used for the study to accomplish the stated objectives.

### Variables

#### Independent Variable

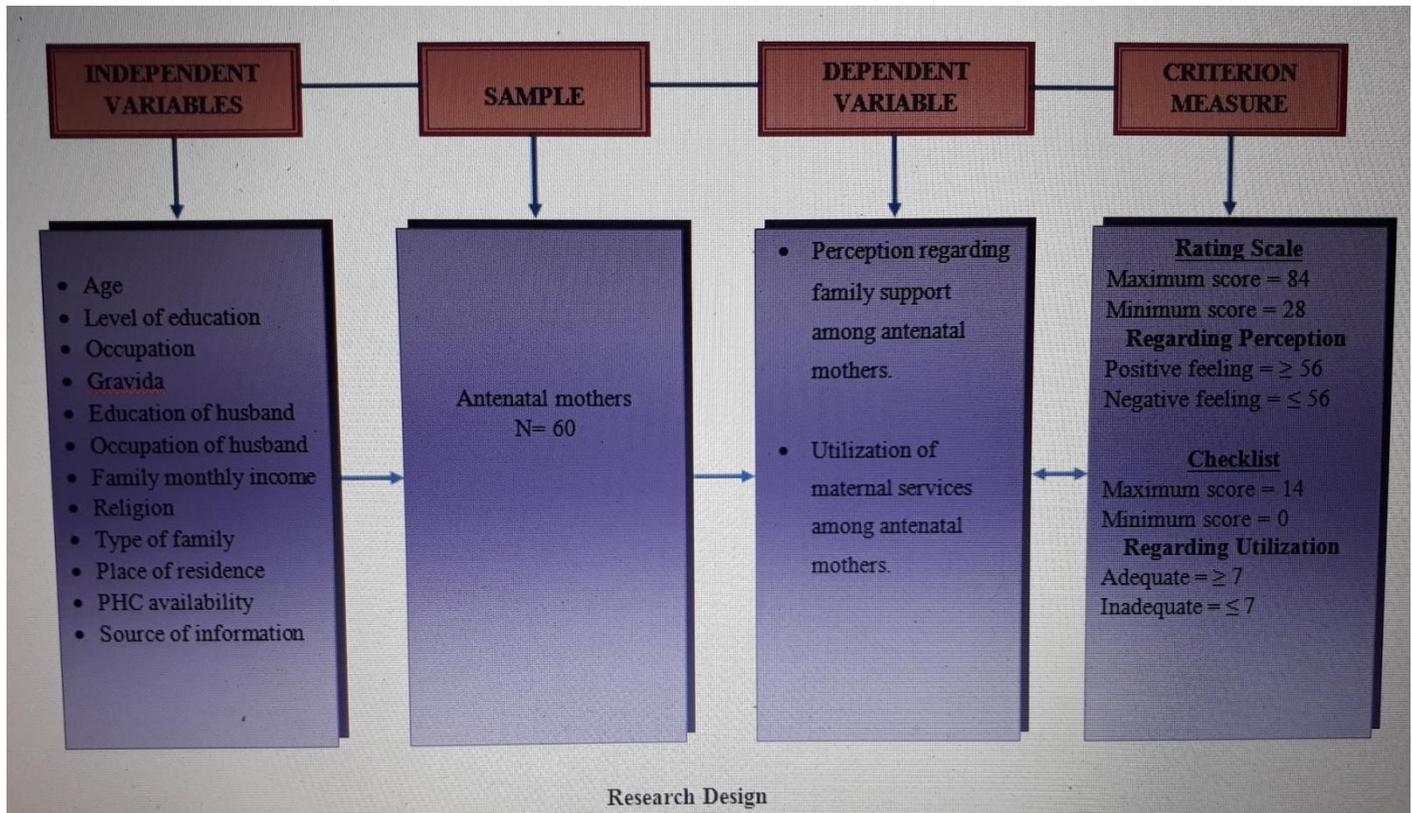
Independent variable of the study was perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers.

#### Dependent Variable

Dependent variable of the study was utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers.

### Research Setting

The study was conducted in the antenatal OPD of Civil Hospital, district Hoshiarpur.



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The study was conducted in the antenatal OPD of Civil Hospital, district Hoshiarpur.

### Population

Target population was antenatal mothers who were in third trimester and having age group more than 18 years.

### Sample

The sample of the study was comprised of 60 antenatal mothers.

### Sampling Technique

Purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample of the study.

### Development of Tool

Demographic variables among antenatal mothers, rating scale on perception of family support and checklist on utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers was prepared with the help of review of literature, personal experience and discussion with experts.

### Description of Tool

**Part I:** Demographic information: it contained items for obtaining information regarding age, level of education, occupation, gravida, education of husband, occupation of husband, family

monthly income, religion, type of family, place of residence, PHC availability, source of information.

**Part II:** Rating scale: This part consisted of 28 statements of rating scale to assess the perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers. The sample had to tick mark in the relevant column based on Always, Sometimes and Never. The maximum score was 84 and the minimum score was 28.

**Part III:** Checklist: This part consisted of 14 items of checklist to assess the utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers. The sample had to tick mark on relevant column i.e. Yes and No. The maximum score was 14 and the minimum was 0.

### Reliability of the Tool

The reliability of tool was established by Split-Half method and thereafter by applying Karl Pearson's Co-efficient of Correlation formula and Spearman's Brown Prophecy formula. The reliability of perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services was 0.9 for rating scale and checklist.

**Data Collection Procedure**

Data collection was done after taking written permission from Senior Medical Officer of selected hospital, Hoshiarpur for conduction of the study in their hospital, explaining them the purposes and objectives of the study. The total sample consists of 60 antenatal mothers. Purposive sampling technique was used. The investigator first introduced herself to respondents and explained the purpose of gathering information. Informed written consent was taken from subjects for participation in study. For the data collection, tool was administered to the participants and were assured that their response would be kept confidential and used only for research purpose.

**Plan for data analysis**

Analysis of data was done in accordance with the objectives. The analysis of data was done by using descriptive and inferential statistics i.e. by calculating percentage, mean score, mean percentage, standard deviation (SD), Karl Pearson's coefficient of correlation, 't' test and analysis of variance (ANOVA) to identify the perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers with selected variables and the relationship between the perception and utilization. To find out the significant difference in the assessment of perception and utilization score, the level of significance chosen was  $p < 0.05$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ,  $p < 0.001$ . Bar graphs and pie charts were used to depict the findings.

**RESULT DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES****Table-1** Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Sample Characteristics**N=60**

| Sample Characteristics            | Frequency (n) | Percentage (%) |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Age (in years)</b>             |               |                |
| 18-23                             | 22            | 36.7           |
| 24-29                             | 33            | 55.0           |
| 30-35                             | 03            | 5.0            |
| >35                               | 02            | 3.3            |
| <b>Level of Education</b>         |               |                |
| Illiterate                        | 03            | 5.0            |
| Primary                           | 08            | 13.3           |
| Higher Secondary                  | 44            | 73.4           |
| Graduate and above                | 05            | 8.3            |
| <b>Occupation</b>                 |               |                |
| Working                           | 10            | 16.7           |
| Non-working                       | 50            | 83.3           |
| <b>Gravida</b>                    |               |                |
| Primigravida                      | 37            | 61.7           |
| Multigravida                      | 23            | 38.3           |
| <b>Education of Husband</b>       |               |                |
| Illiterate                        | 04            | 6.7            |
| Primary                           | 14            | 23.3           |
| Higher Secondary                  | 39            | 65.0           |
| Graduate and above                | 03            | 5.0            |
| <b>Occupation of Husband</b>      |               |                |
| Working                           | 56            | 93.3           |
| Non-working                       | 04            | 6.7            |
| <b>Family Monthly Income (Rs)</b> |               |                |
| <5000                             | 50            | 83.4           |
| 5001-10,000                       | 08            | 13.3           |
| 10,001-15,000                     | 02            | 3.3            |

| Sample Characteristics       | Frequency (n) | Percentage (%) |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Religion</b>              |               |                |
| Hindu                        | 46            | 76.7           |
| Sikh                         | 14            | 23.3           |
| <b>Type of family</b>        |               |                |
| Nuclear                      | 14            | 23.3           |
| Joint                        | 39            | 65.0           |
| Extended                     | 07            | 11.7           |
| <b>Place of residence</b>    |               |                |
| Rural                        | 37            | 61.7           |
| Urban                        | 23            | 38.3           |
| <b>PHC Availability</b>      |               |                |
| Yes                          | 46            | 76.7           |
| No                           | 14            | 23.3           |
| <b>Source of information</b> |               |                |
| Television                   | 10            | 16.7           |
| Newspaper                    | 02            | 3.3            |
| Peer-Group                   | 01            | 1.7            |
| Health-personnel             | 47            | 78.3           |

**Table 1** depicts that the maximum 55% antenatal mothers belonged to age group 24-29 years. Most 73.4% of antenatal mothers were having higher secondary education and majority 83.3% antenatal mothers were non-working. 61.7% were pregnant for first time. 65% husbands of antenatal mothers were having higher secondary education. 93.3% husbands of antenatal mothers were working,

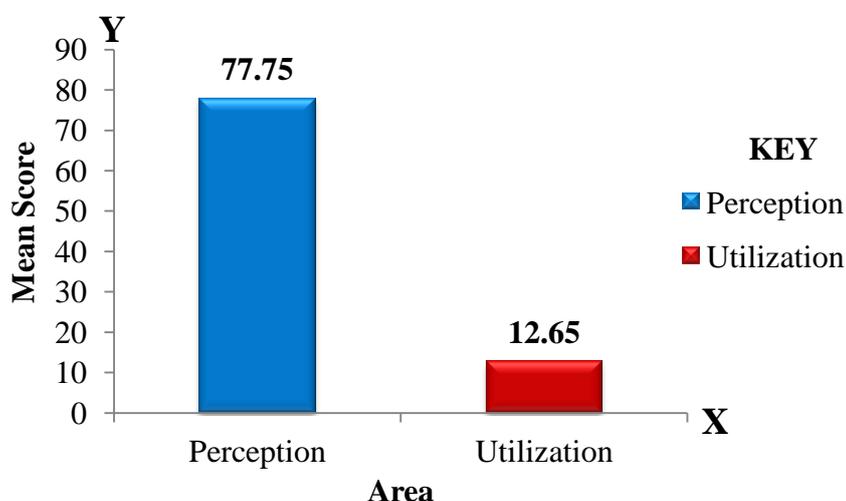
83.4% of antenatal mothers monthly income was between <5000. Maximum 76.7% antenatal mothers belong to Hindu religion. 65% antenatal mothers were from joint family, 61.7% antenatal mothers were from rural area. 76.7% of antenatal mothers live in a place where PHC was available. Maximum 78.3% antenatal mothers' source of information was health personnel.

**Table 2** Mean distribution of perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers.

| Area        | Mean Score |       |      |
|-------------|------------|-------|------|
|             | N          | Mean  | SD   |
| Perception  | 60         | 77.75 | 6.19 |
| Utilization | 60         | 12.65 | 1.33 |

**Table 2** depicts that the mean perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers

was 77.75 and mean utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers was 12.65.



**Table 3** Correlation between perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers

N=60

| Relationship                        | Max. Score | Mean  | r    |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------|------|
| Perception regarding family support | 84         | 77.75 | .194 |
| Utilization of maternal services    | 14         | 12.65 |      |

**Table 3** concluded that the correlation between perception and utilization among antenatal mothers was positive (r=0.19). Hence, it was

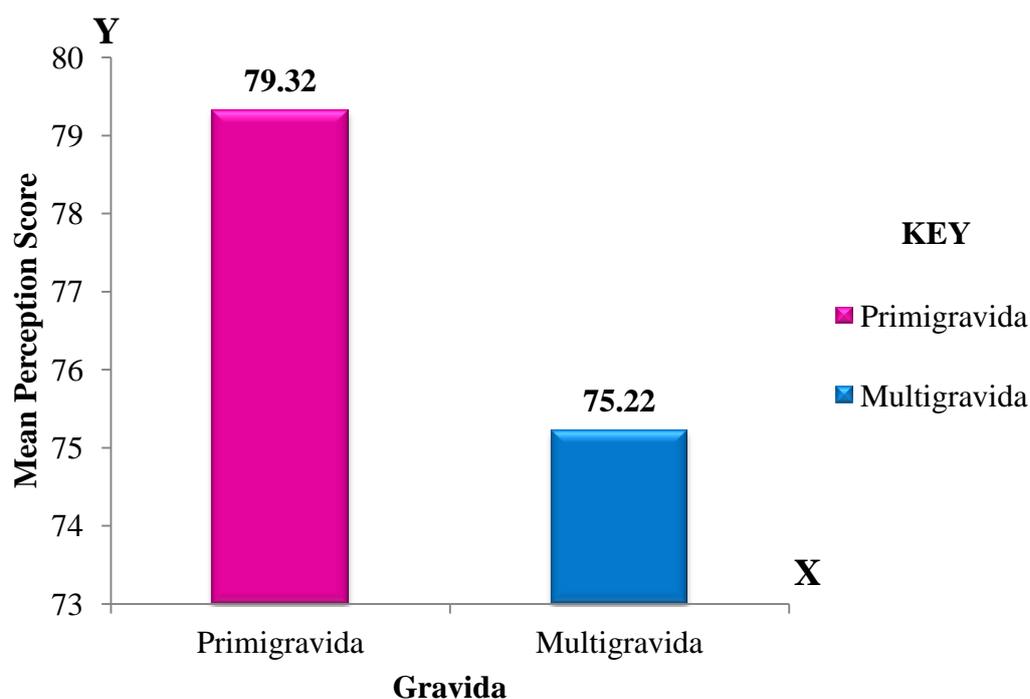
concluded that there was positive correlation between family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers.

**Table-4** Mean perception score regarding family support among antenatal mothers according to Gravida  
N=60

| Sample Characteristics | Perception Regarding Family Support |       |      |    | df | t=2.62** |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|------|----|----|----------|
|                        | n                                   | Mean  | SD   | df |    |          |
| <b>Gravida</b>         |                                     |       |      |    |    |          |
| Primigravida           | 37                                  | 79.32 | 2.83 | 58 |    |          |
| Multigravida           | 23                                  | 75.22 | 8.87 |    |    |          |

Maximum Perception Score=84  
Minimum Perception Score=28

\*\*Significant at p<0.01 level



**Table-5** Mean perception score regarding family support among antenatal mothers according to Source of information.

N=60

| Sample Characteristics       | Perception Regarding Family Support |       |       |    | df | F=3.46** |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|----|----|----------|
|                              | N                                   | Mean  | SD    | df |    |          |
| <b>Source of Information</b> |                                     |       |       |    |    |          |
| Television                   | 10                                  | 72.50 | 12.74 | 3  |    |          |
| Newspaper                    | 02                                  | 79.00 | 5.65  | 56 |    |          |
| Peer-Group                   | 01                                  | 74.00 | -     |    |    |          |
| Health-personnel             | 47                                  | 48.89 | 3.00  |    |    |          |

Maximum Perception Score=84  
Minimum Perception Score=28

\*\*Significant at p<0.01 level

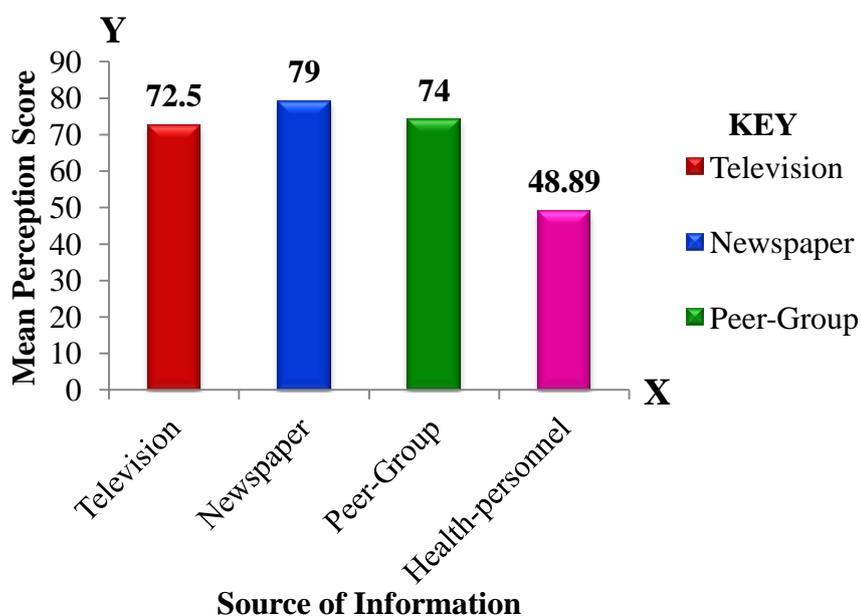


Table 4 and 5 depicts that Gravida and source of information had statistically significant impact on the perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers at  $p < 0.01$  level. Age, level of education, occupation, education of husband,

occupation of husband, family monthly income, place of residence and PHC availability had no impact on perception regarding family support among antenatal mothers.

Table-6 Mean utilization score of maternal services among antenatal mothers according to Source of information.

N=60

| Sample Characteristics       | Perception Regarding Family Support |       |      |    |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|------|----|
|                              | n                                   | Mean  | SD   | df |
| <b>Source of Information</b> |                                     |       |      |    |
| Television                   | 10                                  | 11.70 | 2.11 | 3  |
| Newspaper                    | 02                                  | 12.00 | -    | 56 |
| Peer-Group                   | 01                                  | 14.00 | -    |    |
| Health-personnel             | 47                                  | 12.85 | 1.06 |    |

Maximum Utilization Score=14  
Minimum Utilization Score=0

\*Significant at  $p < 0.05$  level

Table 6 concluded that Source of information had significant impact on the utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers at  $p < 0.05$  level. Age, level of education, occupation, gravida, education of husband, occupation of husband, family monthly income, place of residence and PHC availability had no impact on utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers.

**CONCLUSION**

Findings of the study shown that the antenatal mothers had perceived positive feeling regarding family support and had utilized maximum and adequate maternal services. The correlation

between perception and utilization among antenatal mothers was positive. Assumption of the study was found true i.e. The women who are having positive perception regarding family support will have better utilization of maternal services.

**Implication**

The nurse educators should give proper information about physical, emotional and financial family support among antenatal mothers and must give proper information about maternal services aspect so that mothers can identify any deviation by themselves and can take necessary measures as early as possible. The nursing service

can have adequately prepared nurse for identifying the perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services through assessment during antenatal visits. Through publication of research finding of perception regarding family support and utilization of maternal services among antenatal mothers can be disseminated to make nurses as well as public more aware of family support and maternal services among antenatal mothers.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- A descriptive study to assess the awareness of family members regarding family support among antenatal mothers in selected areas can be done.
- A comparative study can be conducted to assess the effect of family support and maternal services among antenatal mothers in urban and rural area.
- A study can be conducted to find out the knowledge, attitude and practice of the nurses towards Social support during the time of labour.

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*“Being a mother means that your heart is no longer yours; It wanders wherever your children do”.*