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Behavioural factors associated with late presentation at Antenatal care in Limpopo Province, South Africa

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Globally, approximately 70% of mothers' access Antenatal Care services at least once during pregnancy. In South Africa, approximately 95% - 97% of pregnant mothers attend Antenatal Care services although majority present late after 20 weeks of pregnancy and some may have only one visit due to various factors. The purpose of this study was to assess behavioural factors associated with late presentation at Antenatal Care services in Limpopo Province, South Africa. A qualitative, exploratory approach was used. Population comprised of pregnant mothers who were attending Antenatal Care services at Primary Health Care facilities. Non-probability, purposive sampling method was used to sample 40 pregnant mothers. Data were collected using Focus Group Discussions. Data were analysed qualitatively through open coding method. Findings revealed that knowledge deficiency related to Basic Antenatal Care, advanced maternal age of 40 years and above, feeling of shameless, ignorance, laziness and unhealthy lifestyle such as abuse of alcohol were associated with late presentation at Antenatal Care services. There is a need to develop an intervention programme to increase pregnancy awareness among mothers of child bearing age.

Biography

Seani Adrinah Mulondo have completed Master's Degree in 2010 at the University of Venda and presently completed Doctoral studies in the same University (UNIVEN). He/She is a Lecturer in the Department of Advanced Nursing Science, School of Health Sciences. His/Her field of research study is midwifery discipline with main interest on the interventions to improve maternal and child health in Limpopo Province. His/Her current topic includes: "Development of an intervention programme to prevent tuberculosis complications during pregnancy and puerperium, Limpopo Province South Africa" with the aim of improving maternal health, reduction in child mortality, empowering women and reduction of TB prevalence by 80% in 2030 among women of child bearing age. On completion of his/her PhD study, he/she opted to serve in South Africa Netherlands Research Programme on Development (SANPAD) project as one of the members/supervisors which focused on capacity building for research students on TB. He/She has published 8 papers in DHET accredited journals and serving as a Reviewer of Health SA Gesondheid Journal and African Journal for Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AJPHERD).

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