DRUG USAGE EVALUATION DURING PREGNANCY. PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUD

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The incidence of congenital disorders represents a serious problem in population. Birth defects occur among 3.5 – 5 % of infants examined at birth or in neonatal period. About 1 % of congenital anomalies are caused by drugs, chemicals and other exogenous agents. The most pharmacons with relation to dose can cause alterations during embryogenic and fetal development. However, it is not always possible to avoid pharmacotherapy of acute and chronic diseases during pregnancy to prevent harm to fetus. The possible benefit of treatment should always overweight the risk. The pharmacoepidemiological retrospective study on drug risk in pregnancy was performed in 2018 in the form of questionnaire. The aim was to obtain data concerning mothers, drug consumption and possible influence of drugs to the newborns. Three hundred women, randomly selected, were interviewed after delivery at the Department of Gynaecology and Obstetrics, University Hospital in Bratislava. Age of women was in range 17 – 45 years, average age was 30.79 ± 4.4 years. Majority of them did not suffer from any chronic disease (70.7 %). The most frequent chronic diseases were allergic and thyroid gland disorders. Risk pregnancy was reported in 20.6 %. Percentage of women taking at least one drug was in the 1st trimester - 31 %, 2nd trimester - 23 %, 3rd trimester - 32 %. Dietary supplements (iron, magnesium, folic acid and vitamins) were taking 80.7 % of women. Approximately 11% did not take any drug or dietary supplement. The studied group did not show statistically significant correlation between drug intake and increase in prevalence of the congenital malformations. There was no case of drug administration that is contraindicated in pregnancy or obvious teratogen and limited use of drugs with possible risk in pregnancy. This approach reflects awareness of physicians and pregnant women about effects of drugs and dietary supplements on fetal development.