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# **Original Research Article**

# Study of correlation between maternal body mass index with maternal and perinatal outcome

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# **ABSTRACT**

**Background:** To study the correlation between maternal body mass index (BMI) with maternal and perinatal outcome in women admitted to labour ward in Department of OBG, VIMS, Ballari.

**Methods:** This observation study was conducted in Department of OBG, VIMS, Ballari for a period of one year between 1st October 2014 to 30th September 2015. All women admitted to labour ward with full term singleton pregnancy were included in the study. The cases were classified into four groups as under-weight (BMI <20kg/m2), normal (BMI 20-24.9kg/m2), over-weight (BMI 25-29.9kg/m2) and obese (BMI >30kg/m2). The maternal and perinatal outcome noted and studied in the above groups.

**Results:** A total of 500 cases were included during the study period of one year, out of which 15% were underweight, 68% were normal BMI, 12% were over-weight and 5% cases were obese(BMI >30kg/m2). The patients with low BMI had higher incidence of low birth weight (40%) and perinatal deaths. Increased BMI category was associated with higher incidence of PIH (25-28%), operative deliveries (50-68%), PPH (12%), microsomal babies (32%), low APGAR (24%) and perinatal deaths (12%).

**Conclusions:** Adverse maternal and perinatal outcomes are significantly related to extremes of BMI categories and least complications were seen in normal BMI group.

Keywords: BMI, Macrosomia, Obese, LSCS, Low birth-weight, PIH, PPH, Under-weight

## INTRODUCTION

One of the most important noticeable factors in pregnancy is gain in weight. Weight gain in pregnancy is directly related to the birth weight of the foetus. Maternal malnutrition is the most important underlying determinant factor in adverse maternal and foetal outcome. In our country, due to extreme socio-economic status pattern underweight and obesity are prevalent among pregnant women. Body Mass Index (BMI) or Quetelet Index is defined as the body mass (weight) divided by the square of the body height and is calculated by formula "weight in kg/height in meter". 1.2

The present study was conducted to examine the correlation between the maternal BMI with maternal and perinatal outcome in view of PIH, operative deliveries, PPH, Low birth-weight, macrosomia, low APGAR at birth and perinatal mortality.

## **METHODS**

This observational study was conducted in Department of OBG, VIMS, Ballari for a period of one year between 1st October 2014 to 30th September 2015.

All women admitted to Labour Ward, Department of OBG, VIMS, Ballari who meets the inclusion criteria were selected for the study.

#### Inclusion criteria

All women admitted to labour ward with full-term singleton pregnancy in labour.

#### Exclusion criteria

- Pre-term deliveries
- Post-dated pregnancies
- Multi-foetal gestation
- Previous caesarean section
- · Foetal malpresentations and malpositions
- History of medical disorders

Ethical clearance was obtained from VIMS Institutional Ethical Committee (IEC) and details of all cases are entered in the prescribed proforma after taking informed consent. Height and weight of the patients were recorded by means of standard methodology described by Lohman et al.<sup>1</sup>

BMI was calculated (weight in kg/height in meter<sup>2</sup>) and cases were classified into four groups accordingly.

Table 1: BMI classification.

Under-weight	BMI <20kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Normal	BMI 20-24.9kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Over-weight	BMI 25-29.9kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Obese	$BMI > 30 kg/m^2$

Maternal outcome was studied in the form of PIH, Caesarean deliveries (LSCS) and PPH, and perinatal outcome was studied in the view of Low birth weight, macrosomia, low APGAR at birth and at 5 mins and perinatal deaths.

# Statistical analysis

The outcome of the study was compare by Chi Square test and P value of <0.05 was regarded as statistically significant.

#### **RESULTS**

A total of 500 cases were included in the study during one year of study period out of which 15% were underweight (75 cases), 68% were normal BMI (340 cases), 12% were over-weight (60 cases) and 5% cases were obese (25 cases).

#### Maternal outcome

The incidence of PIH was highest in obese group (28%) and overweight group (25%) compared to normal BMI group (6.17%) and underweight group (2.6%).

**Table 2: Characteristics of study group.** 

Parameters	Mean	N	
Age (Years)	21.8	500	
Weight (kg)	56.5	500	
Height (cm)	152.6	500	
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	23.25	500	
Birth Weight (kg)	2.76	500	

Table 3: BMI versus PIH.

BMI	PIH		No PIH		P value
	F	%	F	%	
Under-weight (n=75)	2	2.7	73	97.3	< 0.001
Normal (n=340)	21	6.2	319	93.8	
Over-weight (n=60)	15	25.0	45	75.0	
Obese (n=25)	7	28.0	18	72.0	

Majority of cases (68%) required operative delivery in obese group followed by overweight group (50%). 38 women underwent LSCS in normal BMI group (11.17%).

Table 4: BMI versus type of delivery.

BMI	LSCS		FNVD		P value
	F	%	F	%	
Under- weight (n=75)	10	13.3	65	86.7	<0.001
Normal (n=340)	38	11.2	302	88.8	
Over- weight (n=60)	30	50.0	30	50.0	
Obese (n=25)	17	68.0	8	32.0	

Table 5: BMI versus post-partum haemorrhage.

BMI	PPH		No PPH		P value
	F	%	F	%	
Under- weight (n=75)	2	2.7	73	97.3	<0.001
Normal (n=340)	8	2.4	332	97.6	
Over- weight (n=60)	6	10.0	54	90.0	
Obese (n=25)	3	12.0	22	88.0	

Table 6: BMI versus birth weight of baby.

BMI	LBW		Normal birth weight		P value
	F	%	F	%	
Under-weight (n=75)	30	40.0	45	60.0	< 0.001
Normal(n=340)	20	5.9	320	94.1	
Over-weight (n=60)	11	18.3	49	81.7	
Obese (n=25)	4	16.0	21	84.0	

Table 7: BMI versus macrosomia.

BMI	Macrosomia		Normal		P value
	F	%	F	%	
Under-weight (n=75)	0	0.0	75	100	< 0.001
Normal (n=340)	3	0.9	337	99.1	
Over-weight (n=60)	10	16.7	50	83.3	
Obese (n=25)	8	32.0	17	68.0	

Table 8: BMI versus Apgar score.

BMI	Low Apgar		Normal Apgar		P value
	F	%	F	%	
Under-weight (n=75)	13	17.3	62	82.7	< 0.001
Normal (n=340)	8	2.4	332	97.6	
Over-weight (n=60)	8	13.3	52	86.7	
Obese (n=25)	6	24.0	19	76.0	

Table 9: BMI versus perinatal outcome.

BMI	Perinatal deaths		Alive		P value
	F	%	F	%	
Under-weight (n=75)	7	9.3	68	90.7	< 0.001
Normal (n=340)	6	1.8	334	98.2	
Over-weight (n=60)	6	10.0	54	90.0	
Obese (n=25)	3	12.0	22	88.0	

The risk of PPH was higher in increased BMI group (10-12%) compared to normal and underweight group (2.3-2.6%).

#### Perinatal outcome

Low birth weight babies (<2500g) were seen more in underweight category (40%) followed by overweight group (30%). Least number of LBW cases was seen in normal BMI group (5.88%).

Macrosomia (Birth weight >4000g) was seen in 32% of obese group followed by overweight group (16%). Only 3 cases of macrosomia babies (0.8%) were noted in

normal BMI group whereas no macrosomia documented in underweight group.

In the present study low APGAR at birth was seen in maximum cases at both extremes of BMI. 24% of obese group had low APGAR followed by 17.3% of underweight group.

Perinatal deaths were highest in obese group (12%) and overweight group (10%) followed by underweight group (9.3%). Only 1.76% of deaths noted in normal BMI group.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The present study shows that both the extremes of BMI group predispose the women to adverse maternal and perinatal outcome.

In our study, the incidence of PIH was significantly associated with increasing maternal obesity, similar findings were reported by Kabir et al, Sahu et al and Deepika J et al and Jain P et al. 2-5

The present study has observed that highest number of women has undergone caesarean section in obese group (68%) and overweight group (50%). This study correlates with the study conducted by Bhattacharya S et al, Deepika J et al and Jain P et al.  $^{4\text{-}6}$ 

In the current study obese and overweight group had increased incidence of PPH (10-12%) compared to normal BMI and underweight group (2.6-2.8) which correlates with the studies done by Sebire NJ et al, Bhattacharya S et al and Deepika J et al.<sup>4,5</sup>

The occurrence of low birth weight babies was more in both the extreme groups. 40% of LBW babies were seen in underweight babies followed by overweight and obese group (16-18%) which correlates well with studies conducted by Sahu et al, Kabir et al, Deepika J et al and Jain P et al.<sup>2-5</sup>

In the present study there's strong association of obesity and risk of macrosomic babies which accounts for 32% cases. Similar association was reported by Deepika et al, Jain P et al and Sebire NJ et al. 4.5.7

In the current study low APGAR at birth was seen more in obese group (24%) and also in underweight group (17.3%) which is in accordance with Jain P et al and Pillai S et al studies.<sup>5,8</sup>

In the present study series perinatal deaths were more in obese (12%) and overweight group (10%) followed by underweight group (9.3%), which correlates with the study conducted by Jain P et al.<sup>5</sup>

#### **CONCLUSION**

The present study clearly shows that both the extremes of maternal BMI groups are associated with adverse maternal and perinatal outcomes. It also states that complications are least in normal BMI individuals.

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Ethical approval: The study was approved by the

Institutional Ethics Committee

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