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MALARIA AND ANAEMIA IN PREGNANT WOMEN OF DIFFERENT GENOTYPES ATTENDING TWO ANTENATAL CLINICS IN ABA NORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF ABIA STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

A study on malaria and anaemia among pregnant women of different genotypes attending antenatal clinics (ANCs) was carried out in Aba North L.G.A of Abia State between the months of June and August 2015. Blood samples were collected and examined for malaria parasite using thick blood film stained with Giemsa and haemoglobin level (Hb) using haematocrit method. Information on their genotype, age groups, parity and gestation age were collected from their folders. The results were analyzed statistically using chi-square. The younger pregnant women of ages (15 – 20years) had the highest prevalence rate of malaria (70%) than the older pregnant women(39 – 43years) with (65.2%). Women with genotype AA had the higher prevalence rate of (59.09%) followed by AS (39.13%) and there was no SS genotype encountered. Peak prevalence rate of malaria infection was observed among pregnant women in their second trimester (75%), first trimester (71.1%) and third trimester (31.9%). The primigravidae showed higher prevalence rate of (70.3%), secundigravidae (43.5%) and multigravidae (26.7%).The non-civil servants had higher prevalence of(62.7%) and civil servants had a prevalence rate of(45.9%) .The educational status of the pregnant women was also a factor as the illiterates had higher prevalence rate of(74%) while those in primary and secondary educational stati had a prevalence of(56%) and tertiary educational status(39.8%). Malaria and anaemia in pregnancy can result to maternal and infant mortality, hence there is need to educate pregnant women on the detriments of malaria and anaemia especially during antenatal visits.

Keywords: *Anaemia, Malaria, Genotypes, Pregnant women, Abia state.*