

Obstetric and Environmental associated factors of Autism Spectrum Disorders in Palestine

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Abstract:

Background: Over the past 10 years, research about environmental risk factors for autism has grown dramatically, bringing evidence that an array of non-genetic factors acting during the pregnancy period may influence child neurodevelopment.

Purpose: This study aims to identify the relationship between the Environmental and Obstetric associated factors with developing Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Methods: A descriptive quantitative (cross sectional) design used to investigate the evidence of perinatal, postnatal and prenatal or even Environmental factors that might have an association with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Result & conclusion: Results show that we have factors that affect the cases of autism spectrum disorder (ASD). That result shows that genetic factors and psychological or mental disorder in the family with little effect on the development of autism cases. Also pregnant women who didn't get their vaccination during pregnancy occupied almost half (68.6%) of participants. Largest proportion for developing new ASD cases was when pregnant women exposed to cigarettes smoking, either if they were smoker or other family member smoked was not this ratio; we found that children are more susceptible to develop ASD if they have smoker family member, also increase the rates when the mother is exposed to chemical substances during pregnancy.