

IMPLICATIONS OF DIAGNOSING GESTATIONAL DIABETES MELLITUS IN SRI LANKA BY WHO 2013 VERSUS WHO 1999 CRITERIA

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INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE: Prevalence of gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) is on the rise in lower-middle income countries in parallel with the epidemic of obesity and type 2 diabetes. WHO 2013 diagnostic criteria led to a global increase of prevalence of GDM compared to earlier figures based on WHO 1999 criteria. Application of 2013 criteria at grass root level in Sri Lanka would assist the planning of health services. **DESIGN AND SETTING:** Community based cross-sectional study in two Medical Officer of Health (MOH) areas in the district of Gampaha, Srilanka. **METHOD:** Consecutive women attending field-based ante-natal clinics were recruited by cluster sampling with probability proportionate to size using strict exclusion criteria. All consenting participants underwent fasting 75g OGTT and GDM diagnosed based on WHO 1999 criteria and WHO 2013 criteria. Venous plasma glucose was tested by an accredited laboratory. **RESULTS:** Data of 1400 pregnant women was analyzed. A total of 194 subjects with GDM were identified by WHO 1999 criteria. WHO 2013 criteria identified 17 with diabetes in pregnancy (DIP) and another 217 women with GDM. **CONCLUSION:** The application of WHO 2013 diagnostic criteria for community based screening in suburban Sri Lanka leads to a 20.62% increase in the number of women detected as DIP and GDM when compared to diagnosis using WHO 1999 criteria. **Funding:** MRI and Nirogi Maatha Project funded by WDF