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Behavioral beliefs related to cesarean section based on Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) among pregnant women: A qualitative study

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Background and Objectives: The reasons of women's birth request on the cesarean section are uncertain. Since behavioral beliefs plays important role on intention and behavior related to health. Thus the aim of this study was to determine behavioral beliefs related to cesarean section based on Theory of Planned Behavior among pregnant women.

Methods: A qualitative study with purposive sampling was designed in which data were collected through in-depth interviews and focus group based on TPB framework. The interviews were transcribed from tape recording. Content analysis was performed to analyze the data.

Results: In all 36 women were agreed to be interviewed. The mean age of participants were 27.8(SD=4.5). Two main themes were extracted from the interviews: Positive and negative belief related to cesarean section. There explored four sub themes including long term and short term complications related to cesarean section and long term and short term advantages related to cesarean section

Conclusions: Health care providers should address misunderstandings that exist about caesarean section among pregnant women and highlight correct beliefs to balance the information provided for women.

Key words: Theory of Planned Behavior, Cesarean section, Behavioral belief