Identifying risk factors for preeclampsia in subsequent pregnancies in women with a history of preeclampsia

Michaela Wiltgen,1 Donna A Santillan, PhD,2 Kellie Thomas, RN,2 Adam Fitzsimmons,2 Lindsay Krotz,2 Heather Davis, MLIS, MS3 Laura Jacobus, MS3 Mark K Santillan, MD, PhD,2 Debra Brandt, PhD, RN2

Keywords: Pregnancy, preeclampsia, risk factors

Preeclampsia (PE) is a prevalent hypertensive disorder of pregnancy that causes significant maternal-fetal mortality. It has been reported that 60% of maternal mortality can be prevented. Studies have demonstrated that nursing has the ability to influence the mortality rates by providing proactive and competent care. Part of proactive, competent care is to identify those women at the highest risk for PE. Multiple studies have identified a history of PE as a significant risk factor for PE in future gestations. We conducted a nested case control study with our Rule Out Pre-Eclampsia (ROPE) cohort to identify comorbidities most likely to lead to recurrent PE. A total of 116 women underwent evaluation to rule out PE. Demographic and comorbidity data was obtained. Descriptive statistics, bivariate analyses, and logistic regression were performed as indicated with \( \alpha = 0.05 \). PE developed in 88 of 116 women (75.6%). Characteristics were analyzed for the prediction of the development of PE in order of importance. Recognition of these risk factors will be of value to nurses when counseling and assessing women regarding PE.

1College of Nursing, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
2Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA
3Office of Information Technology, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City, IA


Corresponding author: Donna Santillan, PhD, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, 200 Hawkins Drive, Iowa City, IA 52246. Email: donna-santillan@uiowa.edu

Copyright: © 2018 Wiltgen et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.
Presented at “Complicated Maternal Fetal Medicine Cases,” the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine Ob/Gyn Postgraduate Conference, 2 November 2018, Hilton Garden Inn, Iowa City, Iowa.