Common Core Outcomes in the Treatment of Hyperemesis Gravidarum as Reported in Obstetrics and Gynecology Journals

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Introduction

Commonly Reported Core Outcomes

Does pregnancy always lead to this outcome?

Contrary to popular belief, consistent outcomes are more important than variable outcomes. Much like a husband should appreciate knowing the symptoms that his wife will experience while pregnant, physicians should have the ability to expect a common set of outcomes based on the research they read when treating their patients.

“Core outcome sets are consensus-based, standardized sets of outcomes recommended for measurement across all clinical trials studying a particular condition. Currently, the diversity of outcomes and differences in the methods used to measure them present challenges for evidence synthesis.”

“The Standardization of outcomes for clinical trials has been proposed as a solution to the problems of inappropriate and non-uniform outcome selection and reporting bias.”

Trials

Common Core Outcomes in the Treatment of Hyperemesis Gravidarum

We searched PubMed, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, and clinicaltrials.gov to locate 120 relevant publications since 2005 that examined Hyperemesis Gravidarum. Exclusions were made based on the criteria shown in the PRISMA Diagram below:

Original Search: Records Identified Through Data Base Searching (n = 120)

Articles after Title and Abstract Screening (n = 60)

Articles excluded during coding:

- Foreign Language
- Non-English Abstract
- Conference Abstract
- 25 Meta analysis
- Systematic Reviews
- 1001 Total Exclusions (n = 119)

Records after duplicates removed (n = 99)

Articles after titles and abstracts (n = 99)

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n = 97)

Exclusions based on Title and Abstract (n = 12)

Studies included in final analysis (n = 30)

After narrowing down our number of viable articles to 32, we extracted all outcomes reported in each study for comparison in order to answer our research question: What are the most commonly reported outcomes observed in the treatment of Hyperemesis Gravidarum?

Methods

We searched PubMed, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, and clinicaltrials.gov to locate 120 relevant publications since 2005 that examined Hyperemesis Gravidarum. Exclusions were made based on the criteria shown in the PRISMA Diagram below:

Research Process

Coding

Each coder independently coded a subset of articles based on a standardized approach.

Verification

Validity was checked by a second coder, who verified each coded element.

Consensus

Discrepancies were solved by group consensus.

Conclusions

• There is little consensus amongst researchers about which outcomes should be measured and reported in regards to the treatment of Hyperemesis Gravidarum, as shown by the presence of 57 different reported outcomes.
• The large quantity of outcomes reported, shows a necessity for the standardization amongst reported outcome sets.
• Too frequently do researchers assess outcomes from specific medical interventions using their own methods, prohibiting clinicians from being able to efficiently compare and contrast treatments in choosing the best viable option for patient care.
• In standardizing core outcomes for the treatment of Hyperemesis Gravidarum, Nausea and Vomiting were the most commonly reported outcomes (80/213 total reported outcomes).

Common Core Outcomes

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