

# Determination of Factors Affecting The Delivery Method Preferences of Pregnant Women

Filiz Süzer Özkan, Nurdan Demirci

Marmara University, Faculty of Health Sciences, Division of Nursing, İstanbul

**Objective:** To determine the pregnancy, birth perception, birth method preferences and the effecting factors.

**Method:** Three different qualitative interviews were performed with 14 pregnant women. In first trimester of pregnancy, third trimester of pregnancy and postpartum period after birth and during the final interview Evaluation of Mother Satisfaction During Birth scale was applied to measure birth satisfaction level.

**Results:** The age average of the pregnant women was  $25\pm 3.2$ , majority of them married between ages of 19-22, were lyceum and high school graduates and half of them were housewives. Most of the pregnant people conceived due to the pressure from their spouses, their emotions were affected from planned pregnancy, the emotions related with pregnancy changed during pregnancy, most of the pregnant women preferred vaginal birth as they think it is healthier and this preference did not change during their pregnancy, all pregnant women were afraid of birth and fear of birth affected their birth method preference. It was determined that half of the pregnant women gave birth by vaginal and the rest by cesarean method. The scores of 3 pregnant women who performed vaginal birth were lower than the breakpoint of the scale ( $<150.5$ ), the scores of all pregnant women who gave birth by cesarean method were higher than the breakpoint of the scale ( $>146.5$ ) so their satisfaction levels from the healthcare they received at the hospital during birth were high.

**Conclusion:** Most of the pregnant women were afraid of delivery and the fear of childbirth affected the delivery preference.

**Key words:** Pregnancy, delivery, delivery method, delivery method preference, Scale for Measuring Maternal Satisfaction in Birth