

Surgical management of a loss of pregnancy in the first trimester: Patient experience and influencing factors, a prospective observational study

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Abstract

Objective: Describe the “patient experience” regarding care provided during the surgical management of a loss of pregnancy in the first trimester and identify the factors influencing this experience. Design: Analytical observational prospective study. Setting: Two main, academic, maternity wards in Lyon, France, carrying out 8,500 deliveries per year. Population: Adult female patients, speaking French, having undergone a curettage for a loss of pregnancy in the first trimester from 24 December 2020 to 13 June 2021. Methods: The “patient experience” was assessed using the 15 questions of the Picker Patient Experience (PPE-15) questionnaire, and research was conducted on factors influencing the patient experience. Main outcome measures: Percentage of patients reporting a problem in response to at least one of the PPE-15 questions. Results: 58 out of 79 patients (73% CI [62-83]) reported at least one problem with their care. The largest proportion of problems was raised in question about “Opportunity for family/loved ones to talk to the doctor” (76% CI [61-87]). The lowest proportion of problems was raised in question about “Treated with respect and dignity” (8% CI [3-16]). No factors influencing the patient experience were identified. Conclusions: The main areas of improvement reported by patients identified were the participation of their family/relatives and the emotional support provided by the healthcare workers team. Funding: None. Keywords: Patient experience, loss of pregnancy, Picker Patient Experience, suction curettage. Tweetable abstract: Better communication with patient families and emotional support could improve patient experience during the surgical management of a loss of pregnancy

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