Development of a Tool to Qualitatively Access Impact of Customized Patient Education Materials on Patient Satisfaction During Labor and Delivery Experience

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INTRODUCTION

- The Painless Push (www.thepainlesspush.com) is an engaging and interactive patient education website that is tailored to the New Mexican population to provide evidence-based information about pain relief options for labor and delivery.
- The website is available in English and Spanish translations.
- In review of the current literature, it was identified there is no validated tool developed to analyze satisfaction with education surrounding pain relief in labor.
- We hypothesized that having an increased knowledge base and understanding of pain relief options during labor and delivery may help patients feel more prepared for delivery, more comfortable with their various pain relief options, and overall more satisfied with the experience of childbirth.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Using results of a systematic review evaluating patient-satisfaction measures throughout the field of Anesthesia, we developed a Likert multipoint scale to measure 10 statements to be assessed in the early post-partum period evaluating satisfaction of childbirth experience.

OUR SURVEY

In a preliminary sample, website exposure did not modify epidural usage rates: epidurals were applied in 37/43 respondents in the website group and 31/37 of the baseline group (p=1.00).

Also in the preliminary sample, the website exhibited a nonsignificant tendency to increase maternal satisfaction with the pain control choice (p=0.08), level of pain control (p=0.09), and information provided (p=0.08).

Issues of patient autonomy, e.g. ability to choose pain control type, ability to ask questions, and a sense of control, did not differ between study groups (p= 0.87, 0.99, 0.65, respectively).

RESULTS

DISCUSSION

- While both groups expressed overall satisfaction with issues of autonomy, patients exposed to the website tended to exhibit greater satisfaction with the pain control received, and interestingly with their own choice of pain control modality to use.
- Further analysis will evaluate the website’s effect in specific patient subsets, e.g. the Spanish-speaking population, those who did not attend childbirth classes, etc.

REFERENCES