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Recommended Citation

Graham, Austin; Kylee Greider; Timothy Petersen; and Katherine M. Seligman. "Development of a Tool to Qualitatively Assess Impact of Customized Patient Education Materials on Patient Satisfaction During Labor and Delivery Experience." (2020). https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/hsc_qips/4

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Development of a Tool to Qualitatively Assess 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

- 1) What is your primary spoken language? English Spanish Other: _____
- 2) What type of delivery did you have? Vaginal Cesarean
- 3) Did you attend childbirth classes? Yes No
- 4) Did you know what type of pain control you wanted to use during labor? Yes No
- 5) What type of pain control did you **want** before you were admitted for labor? (Circle all you wanted)
 - Doula/Coaching Hypnobirthing Lamaze Aromatherapy
 - IV Pain Medicine Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas) Epidural
 - Other: _____
- 6) What type of pain control options did you **use** during your labor? (Circle all that you used)
 - Doula/Coaching Hypnobirthing Lamaze Aromatherapy
 - IV Pain Medicine Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas) Epidural
 - Other: _____

In regard to choosing pain control options for my labor:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
I had a sense of control	1	2	3	4	5
I was able to ask questions	1	2	3	4	5
I was aware of my options	1	2	3	4	5
I was satisfied with the information provided	1	2	3	4	5

For each question below, circle the response that best characterizes how you feel about the statement, where: 1= strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3= neither agree or disagree, 4= agree, 5=strongly agree

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
I was able to decide if I wanted pain control in labor	1	2	3	4	5
I was able to decide what types of pain control to use in labor	1	2	3	4	5
I was satisfied with my choice for pain control in labor	1	2	3	4	5
I was satisfied with my pain control during labor	1	2	3	4	5
My pain was controlled during labor	1	2	3	4	5
The pain control I received was safe for me	1	2	3	4	5
The pain control I received was safe for my baby	1	2	3	4	5

RESULTS

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).

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.

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