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### **A Comparative Study to Determine the Periodontal Health Status in Preeclamptic (PE) Women in Comparison to Normotensive Pregnant Women (NP) With and Without Periodontitis (PI)**

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Multiple factors contribute to chronic periodontitis, a disorder that affects the periodontal structures of the tooth and ultimately results in the gradual loss of attachment and bone. It is possible for pathogenic bacteria to travel through blood arteries to distant parts of the body and penetrate the placental barriers and reach the uterine cavity, which can lead to the development of hostile pregnancy outcomes. The present study aims to determine the periodontal health status in preeclamptic (PE) women in comparison to normotensive pregnant women (NP) with and without periodontitis (PI). This hospital based cross-sectional analytical study was conducted in Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology in RL Jalappa Hospital and Research Centre. The study included 210 pregnant women grouped into Group A (PE) and Group B (NP) of 105 each. Group A was subdivided into Group A1 with PI (n=35) and Group A2 without PI (n=70). Group B was subdivided into Group B1 with PI (n=35) and Group B2 without PI (n=70). Maternal detail periodontal health status as well as oral hygiene status was recorded.  $P < 0.05$  was considered as statistically significant observation. Maternal Debris index (0.0001), Oral Hygiene index ( $P < 0.0001$ ), Plaque index ( $P < 0.0001$ ), Periodontal disease index ( $P = 0.05$ ), gingival bleeding index ( $P < 0.05$ ), Probing Pocket Depth ( $P = 0.04$ ), and tooth mobility ( $P = 0.0001$ ) were statistically significant with  $P < 0.05$ . The Calculus index, Debris index, Oral hygiene index, Gingival bleeding index, and Gingival index are found to be significant at  $P < 0.05$ . We conclude that the clinical parameters of maternal periodontal disease were more evident in preeclamptic women than in normotensive women, and the difference was statistically significant. The periodontitis was more commonly associated with preeclampsia.

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