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Relation between pregnant women and the Brazilian Unified Health System (SUS): Screening and diagnosis of GDM

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ABSTRACT

The existence of a complex health system is capable of providing the necessary care for the mother and mother, but the levels of complexity of this treatment vary according to the need and severity of the situation in which the pregnant woman is ebcibra. From this perspective, this chapter will address the relationship between pregnant women and the Brazilian Unified Health System, as well as the care and diagnosis of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus.

Keywords: SUS, Complexity, Treatment, Diabetes

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Introduction

In 2016, the World Health Organization (WHO) organized recommendations to improve the quality of prenatal care, considering the importance of medical care for gestational development. In this context, the organization recalls that clinical monitoring enables the detection and prevention of diseases, as well as counseling on healthy lifestyle and family planning.¹⁸.

Prenatal care is the starting point for a healthy birth, according to the Ministry of Health, with the requirement that favors the physical, emotional and social monitoring throughout the pregnancy process, since it guides the professionals involved in this screening prenatal care to define the conditions in which the mother is, reflecting the healthy habits developed during this phase of life⁵.

Ordinance 569, dated June 1, 2000, says that prenatal care must be provided free of charge by the Municipal Health Department from the first stage of pregnancy. It is important that through prenatal consultations, pregnant women are

able to maintain adequate and controlled glycemic levels, in order to prevent fetal malformations and other complications in pregnancy¹².

Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM) is considered the most common metabolic problem in pregnancy⁸ and its prevalence can vary from 1 to 14% 1- studies with the Brazilian population have shown prevalences of GDM ranging between 2.9 and 6.6%^{6,14,24}, and may trigger various adverse effects for the mother and the fetus³.

Thus, pregnant women with diabetes should be referred to Secondary Care Centers, and those diagnosed with pre-gestational diabetes should be referred to Tertiary Care Centers for evaluation by a multidisciplinary team, depending on the need and the severity of the case. Pregnant women diagnosed with Diabetes Mellitus should always be monitored jointly by the primary care team and the high-risk¹⁰ prenatal team according to the level of complexity defined by the Brazilian Unified Health System (SUS)(Table 1).

Table 1: Levels of complexity of the activities provided by the hospital.

LEVELS OF COMPLEXITY OF THE ACTIVITIES PROVIDED BY THE HOSPITAL UNIT	
Primary attention	It consists of the Basic Health Units (BHU), the Community Health Agents (CHA), the Family Health Team (ESF) and the Family Health Support Center (FHSC).
Secondary Attention	Formed by specialized services on an outpatient and hospital level, with intermediate technological density between primary and tertiary care, historically interpreted as medium complexity procedures. This level includes specialized medical services, diagnostic, therapeutic support and urgent and emergency care.
Tertiary Care / High complexity	Designates the set of therapies and procedures of high specialization. It also organizes procedures involving high technology and / or high cost, such as oncology, cardiology, ophthalmology, transplants, high-risk delivery, traumatic orthopedics, neurosurgery, dialysis (for patients with chronic kidney disease), otology (for the treatment of diseases hearing aid). It also involves assistance in restorative surgery (of mutilations, trauma or severe burns), bariatric surgery (in cases of morbid obesity), reproductive surgery, assisted reproduction, clinical genetics, nutritional therapy, progressive muscular dystrophy, imperfect osteogenesis (genetic disease that causes bone fragility) and cystic fibrosis (genetic disease that affects several organs of the body causing progressive deficiencies).

Source: State Health Department²⁰

The frequency of glycemic control depends on the degree of commitment pregnant, may initially be monitored every two weeks. In the case of pregnant women with pre-gestational diabetes, daily control should be performed. From 36 weeks onwards, control should be weekly.²².

In 2002, the National Pharmaceutical Assistance Program for Arterial Hypertension and Diabetes Mellitus was established, part of the Care Reorganization Plan based on the National Medicines Policy⁴. Hiperdia was also created, which is a system for registering and monitoring hypertensive and diabetic patients. Hiperdia's objective is to allow the monitoring of patients seen and registered in the outpatient network of the Brazilian Unified Health System (SUS) and to generate information for the acquisition, dispensation and distribution of medicines, in a systematic way, to these patients⁷.

Using the Hiperdia is possible to have a larger monitoring and thus prevention that can reduce significantly the morbimortality of GDM. According to the Ministry of Health²¹ and the Brazilian Diabetes Society¹⁶, prevention can be carried out by identifying individuals at risk (primary prevention), identifying undiagnosed cases (secondary prevention) and by treating individuals already affected by the disease, in order to prevent acute and chronic complications (tertiary prevention).

In this way, the importance of registering and monitoring pregnant women in the Hiperdia program is reaffirmed so that reports can be generated, enabling the knowledge of the situation and mapping the risks to enhance the attention to these people and minimize the conditioning factors of disease complications⁷.

It is vitally important to carry out glycemic control to improve the prognosis as early as possible, due to the deleterious effects of hyperglycemia on the pregnant woman and that consequently reaches the fetus through facilitated diffusion, generating an exaggerated production of insulin, which can cause several problems in relation to the fetus such as macrosomia, hypoglycemia, fetuses large for gestational age, intrauterine

fetal death, among others. Since prenatal care must be followed, it is essential that each health service adopt a unique standard of diagnosis^{9,13}.

In the screening of GDM, anamnesis should be performed taking into account some criteria for the identification of risk factors, including:

- Hypertension or pre-eclampsia in the current pregnancy;
- Short stature (less than 4' 11");
- Family history of diabetes in first-degree relatives;
- Excessive central deposition of body fat;
- Age over 25 years;
- Obesity;
- Excessive weight gain in current pregnancy;
- Excessive fetal growth; and
- Polyhydramnios.

The screening should be performed at the first visit if the patient has risk factors to trigger the disease and all pregnant women between 24 and 28 weeks of gestation. Fasting plasma glucose measurement can be used for screening and diagnosis, and the association of fasting glucose with one or more risk factors is an alternative screening method²³.

Currently, three methods of screening and diagnosing GDM are accepted (Table 2), one adopted by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) proposed by the National Diabetes Data Group, one by the World Health Organization (WHO) and a third by the Brazilian Society of Endocrinology and Metabology¹⁷.

The screening test or oral glucose tolerance test with 50 grams of glucose consists of determining blood glucose one hour after ingesting 50 grams of glucose at any time of the day. Values above 130 mg / dL are able to identify 90% of pregnant women with diabetes, and 140 mg / dL can identify 80%. Blood glucose above 185 mg / dL is already a diagnosis of GDM. It is not necessary to carry out the screening test when the fasting blood glucose value is greater or equal to 126 mg / dL or 200 mg / dL, which are indicative of GDM².

Pregnant women who have a plasma glucose equal to or above the values mentioned, are at high risk of developing glucose intolerance and must undergo a Glucose Tolerance Test (GTT). If the result is less than 140 mg / dL, the test must be repeated between the 24th and 28th weeks and the 32nd week¹⁹.

Diagnostic confirmation can be performed through the Oral Glucose Tolerance Test (OGTT), usually the amount of glucose administered (75 or 100 g) varies over two or three hours. The criteria adopted by the ADA and WHO for positivity establish confirmation of the GDM for blood glucose above two or more values presented¹⁵.

Table 2. Positivity criteria for the screening and diagnosis of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM)

Tempo/ Testes	Tracking	Diagnosis		
	Fasting blood glucose + Risk factors - OGTT 50 g	ADA 100 g	ADA 75 g	OMS 75 g
Fasting	126 mg/dL	95 mg/dL	95 mg/dL	126 mg/dL
1h	130 – 140 mg/dL	180 mg/dL	180 mg/dL	
2h		155 mg/dL	155 mg/dL	140 mg/dL
3h		140 mg/dL		

adapted from Reis ²⁶.

The ADA recommends using the OGTT with 100 g of glucose, including using the 75 g test, in this case, using only three glycemic values. In Brazil, the Diabetes and Pregnancy Working Groups together with the Brazilian Diabetes Association recommend the use of 75 g with fasting plasma measurements and in two hours, according to WHO criteria, which considers diagnostic criteria for both pregnant women and non-pregnant women¹¹.

Conclusion

The various levels of complexity that the Brazilian Single Health System has allows an adequate therapeutic for the pathological conditions that the pregnant woman diagnosed with Gestational Diabetes Mellitus may present. Thus, the understanding of the complex levels of complexity enables the clinical adequacy on the part of those responsible for the treatment, as well as on the part of the pregnant woman.

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