

ABSTRACT

The association of social, economic and other variables with the haemoglobin levels of pregnant women attending two antenatal clinics in Kingston 1990.

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This study was done to examine the association of social, economic and other variables with the haemoglobin (Hb) levels of pregnant women attending two ante-natal clinics in Kingston, Jamaica.

The sampling technique used was of the systematic type. The two areas used for sample selection were the Victoria Jubilee Hospital and the University Hospital of the West Indies. The sample size chosen was 131 respondents. The sample was further separated into trimesters using at least three Hb readings obtained for each mother. Therefore, one mother could have been found in two or three trimesters according to the dates her three Hbs were taken.

No relationships were found between the variables and the Hb at a 5% level of significance when Pearsons coefficient of correlation of chi square analysis was used.

In cases when correlations was determined, the values obtained were very small but suggested that there may be small accumulation that might eventually contribute to the levels of Hbs obtained from the women. The study suggests incidentally that health education, iron supplements and family planning are desirable for child bearing women.