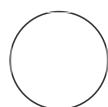




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🌐 Consideration of the information needs of pregnant women with elective caesarean section in antenatal classes – a qualitative study from the perspective of midwives

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We use this protocol and it's working

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Keywords: Antenatal classes; Elective Caesarean Sections; Pregnant Women; Germany; Qualitative Study

ABSTRACT

Background: Qualitative studies show that pregnant women often feel inadequately prepared for a caesarean section (CS) in antenatal classes. To date, no data have been published in Germany on the attendance of antenatal classes by women with elective CS, nor are the reasons for their attendance or non-attendance known. Antenatal classes offer pregnant women a lot of valuable information beyond the topic of vaginal birth, therefore they are also important for pregnant women with elective CS. The study will explore the demand for antenatal classes among pregnant women with elective CS from the midwives perspective, along with factors that either hinder or promote their attendance. Additionally, the study aims to assess the information needs of pregnant women with elective CS in antenatal classes from the midwives' perspective and how these information needs could be addressed better in antenatal classes as well as the extent to which (elective) CS is covered in antenatal classes.

Methods: The study population consists of midwives who practice in Germany, currently provide antenatal classes and are experienced in giving antenatal classes. In their antenatal classes, they should have experience with pregnant women with elective CS, if possible. The study will be conducted as semi-structured expert interviews and the data will be evaluated using Mayring's qualitative content analysis.

Discussion: This study is an opportunity to gain a comprehensive picture from the midwives' perspective. It will be complemented by a mixed-methods study exploring the topic from the perspective of pregnant women with elective CS. The midwives' perspective allows for an overarching perspective including whether suggestions for improvement can be implemented. A possible selection bias in the study population may limit the results. Midwives who value CS education are more likely to participate in the study than those who do not.

Ethics: Ethical approval for the study was obtained by the Medical Ethics Committee of the University of Witten/Herdecke. Results will be published in a relevant scientific journal and communicated to interested participants (when demanded).

Ethical approval date: October 04, 2023

Estimated start of the study: October 2023

Detailed information on our protocol can be found in the attached PDF file.

ATTACHMENTS

[Study_Protocol.pdf](#)

