Supplementary information

A cross-sectional study to assess the frequency and risk factors associated with cesarean section in Southern Punjab, Pakistan

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Supplementary Table S1. The study tool

Socio-demographic factors	**Responses**						
Age group (years)	16-25		26-35				>36
Gestational age (weeks)	Preterm (37 or below)	Full-term (39–40)	Late-term (41)	Post-term (40 or above)			
Education	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary				
Place of Residency	Urban	Rural					
Societal life	Living alone	Living with family					
Physical Activity	High activity	Moderate activity	Low activity				
Hookah user	Yes	No					
Parity (number of births given after 20 weeks of gestation)	Nulli-parity (0)	Low multi-parity (1-3)	Grand multi-parity (4-8)				
Gravidity (total number of confirmed pregnancies, regardless of outcome)	Nulli-gravida (0)	Primi-gravida (1)	Multi-gravida (>1)				
Obstetric variables							
Pregnancy complications	Hypertension	Pre-eclampsia/ eclampsia	Thyroid problem	Significant vaginal bleeding	Other		
Indication for cesarean section							
Dystocia (obstructed labor, long labor, failed induction of labor)	Breech presentation	Transverse presentation	Fetal distress (abnormal fetal heart rate, cord prolapsed)	Placenta	praevia/ accreta	other	Past cesarean history

Knowledge about cesarean section			
Question items	**Responses**		
Have you ever heard about CS?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you think you have enough knowledge about CS?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you know vaginal delivery after CS was feasible?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you know that blood could be needed during or after the operation?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you consider that CS is dangerous?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you agree CS will cause death??	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you agree vaginal birth will cause death?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you prefer CS on doctor's advice?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you agree that vaginal birth can cause pain?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you agree CS must be discouraged because of post-surgical pain?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you believe CS is the safest way to save the lives of mothers and babies?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Would you believe a cesarean could lead to infertility?	Yes	No	Don’t know
Do you agree that CS is related to previous CS?	Yes	No	Don’t know