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Congenital malformation: Burden and pattern among newborns admitted in federal medical center, Asaba, South-South Nigeria

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Background: Congenital malformation account for a significant cause of perinatal mortality and morbidity. Understanding the burden and pattern of congenital malformation is key in monitoring the trend and improving the health care of the neonates especially in low-income countries. Objective: This was a prospective cross-sectional study to determine the prevalence and pattern of congenital malformations among neonates admitted to the neonatal unit. Method: All newborns with congenital malformation admitted into the neonatal unit of Federal Medical Centre, Asaba and whose parents gave consent were recruited for the study for 1-year period from January 2020 to December 2020. Appropriately indicated radio-diagnostic investigations was done to confirm internal anomalies. Data was collected using a structured questionnaire and analyzed with SPSS 26. Results: The total admission for the period was 752 with 46 of the neonates (6.1%) having congenital malformation. The commonest system affected was the cardiovascular system (57%), followed by the central nervous system (33%) and digestive system (30%). AVSD (31%) and PDA (31%) were the commonest cardiovascular malformation among the neonates. Conclusion: Congenital malformation accounts for a significant cause of perinatal mortality and morbidity seen among one in eighteen neonates admitted in Asaba, affecting mostly the cardiovascular and central nervous system. Maternal age over 35 years was associated with multiple organ anomalies as against isolated organ anomaly while outcome was not associated with presence of syndromic features.

Biography

Omoadoni Emeagui completed her post-graduate training in pediatrics at the age of 34 years from the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria. She is a Pediatrics fellow with special interest in neonatology and Pediatrics neurology. She has co-authored over 5 peer reviewed scientific articles related to child health. Currently works in the Pediatrics neurology unit.