Preventing Unsafe Abortion

Article by Anjana Chowdary Elapolu
MD Student, College of Medicine, Texila American University, Guyana, South America

Abstract

Introduction: worldwide, 25 million unsafe abortions (45% of all abortions) occurred every year between 2010 and 2014, according to new study by World Health Organization (WHO) and the Guttmacher institute. The majority of unsafe abortions, or 97%, occurred in developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Unsafe abortion poses a serious threat to health of millions of women during their reproductive lives. Unsafe abortion is a major cause of maternal mortality and morbidity.

Abortion is legal accepted in Guyana under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy act of 1996. According to the New York based centre for Reproductive Rights, Guyana and French Guiana are the only countries in South America where the abortion procedure is legal without any restrictions.

An increasing case of abortions are seen among the unmarried adolescents, particularly in urban areas. The adolescents are at risk of sexually transmitted Infections, lower socioeconomic status which inhibits their growth of carrier, personal and social life.

Method: Ten articles of preventing unsafe abortion and its consequences from Science direct, WHO journal and Guttmacher institute website were used for this review study.

Conclusion: The review explains about the impacts of unsafe abortion among health, personal and social aspects. The preventive measures for unsafe abortions, countries must make supportive policies and financial commitments to provide comprehensive sexuality education; a wide range of contraceptive methods, including emergency contraception; accurate family planning counselling; and access to safe, legal abortion.

Keywords: Unsafe abortions; sexually transmitted Infections; contraception.