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The Effects of Prenatal Patient Education Regarding Epidural Anesthesia

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Project Proposal Abstract
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This project is important because there is a lack of education for prenatal women regarding epidural anesthesia which causes misunderstanding, confusion, a deficit of knowledge, and a lack of support. The purpose of this project is to analyze and suggest the importance of proper education regarding epidural anesthesia. Proper prenatal education causes resolution of misconceptions as well as causes patients to be more satisfied with their pain management during labor. Evidence that I found suggested that after proper education more pregnant women planned to receive epidural anesthesia (Cutajar, 2018). Women preferred detailed education to increase knowledge of the risks and benefits of epidural anesthesia and to properly support their choice of pain management during labor (Togioka, 2019). Other evidence supported that further education reduced misconceptions regarding epidural anesthesia and caused more satisfied decision-making (Alakeely, 2018). Also, continuing medical education for healthcare providers is important to improve evidence-based practices and enhance patient understanding (Zhao, 2021). My methods for this project proposal include understanding the need for successful epidural education by reviewing peer-reviewed publications and organizational data to provide a standard for adequate patient education to ensure patient satisfaction. This standard includes providing education individualized for epidural anesthesia every month of pregnancy beginning in the second trimester until birth. This education will include pamphlets, videos, and discussions to help prenatal women understand the risks and benefits of an epidural as well as answer any questions or concerns these women may have. I will analyze and evaluate this standard of education by having these prenatal women take a survey before and after the epidural anesthesia education to evaluate their patient satisfaction, resolution of misconceptions, and decision regarding epidural use.

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