



# Pregnancy Induced Hypertension and Associated Factors among Pregnant Women Receiving Antenatal Care Service at Jimma Town Public Health Facilities, South West Ethiopia



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## Abstract

**Background:** Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy are a major health burden in the obstetric population as it is one of the leading causes of maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality. World Health Organization estimates that at least one woman dies every seven minutes from complications of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy.

**Objective:** To assess prevalence of pregnancy induced hypertension and associated factors among pregnant women receiving antenatal care service at Jimma town public health facilities, Southwest Ethiopia.

**Methods:** Health facility based cross-sectional study was carried out from March 01-30, 2015. The study was used the total sample size of 356 pregnant women who were proportionally allocated to the hospitals and health centers. Then the study participants were systematically selected from each health facility. The data was collected using pre-tested structured questionnaire adapted from validated questionnaire, content validity was checked by experts and reliability of the scaled tools were tested by cronbach's alpha test ( 0.70). Prior to analysis data was entered and checked using Epi data and exported in to Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20.00. Bivariate analysis was carried out between the dependent and independent to identify variables candidate for multivariable logistic regression. Multivariable logistic regression analysis was made to obtain odds ratio and the confidence interval of statistical associations between pregnancy induced hypertension and its associated factors.

**Result:** Prevalence of pregnancy induced hypertension was 10.3% and among mothers had pregnancy induced hypertension, preeclampsia 23(63.9%) was the most common type. This study also showed that rural residence (Adjusted Odds Ratio (AOR)=5.310, 95%CI=1.518-18.574), positive family history of chronic hypertension (AOR=9.90, 95%CI=2.31-42.44), Positive family history of pregnancy induced hypertension (AOR=9.13(2.33-35.78)), kidney diseases (AOR=3.97, 95%CI=1.36-11.56) and psychological stress (AOR=5.79, 95%CI=1.66-20.25) were statistically significant association with pregnancy induced hypertension.

**Conclusion:** According to this study, the prevalence of pregnancy induced hypertension was high. Address, family history of chronic hypertension, family history of pregnancy induced hypertension, kidney diseases, psychological stress during pregnancy were the factors contributing pregnancy induced hypertension.

**Keywords:** Pregnancy induced hypertension; Pregnancy; Antenatal care service; Women

**Abbreviations:** HDP: Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy; PIH: Pregnancy Induced Hypertension; EDHS: Ethiopian Demographic health survey; SD: Standard Deviation; ANC: Antenatal Care; AOR: Adjusted Odds Ratio; BP: Blood Pressure; CI: Confidence interval; DBP: Diastolic Blood pressure; SBP: Systolic Blood Pressure

## Introduction

Hypertension in pregnancy is defined as a systolic blood pressure  $\geq 140$  or diastolic blood pressure  $\geq 90$  mmHg or both.

Both systolic and diastolic blood pressure elevations are important in the identification of Hypertension Disorder of Pregnancy (HDP) [1].

Pregnancy Induced Hypertension (PIH) is hypertension in pregnancy that occurs after 20 weeks of gestation in a woman with previously normal blood pressure. The general classification of PIH during pregnancy are Gestational hypertension (without proteinuria), pre-eclampsia (with proteinuria), and eclampsia (pre-eclampsia with convulsions) [2] and there are three primary characteristics of pregnancy induced hypertension conditions; high blood pressure (a blood pressure reading higher than 140/90mmHg or a significant increase in one or both pressures), protein in the urine, abnormal edema [3]. PIH is a global problem and the most common medical problem requiring special attention in the intrapartum period [4,5].

The PIH is usually diagnosed in late pregnancy by the presence of hypertension with proteinuria and /or edema. Clinical, biophysical, and biochemical tests have been proposed for prediction or early detection of PIH. Despite the fact that diagnostic criteria, the clinical manifestation of the disease, the management and the prognosis are clear and homogenous, the prevalence of maternal and fetal complications still differ considerably among studies [6].

As a study conducted in Latin American and Caribbean, Pakistan, New York, and Sri Lanka identified the following risk factors for developing pregnancy induced hypertension: null parity, multiple pregnancies, history of chronic hypertension, gestational diabetes, fetal malformation and obesity [7], extreme maternal age (less than 20 or over 40 years), history of PIH in previous pregnancies, preexisting diseases like renal disease, diabetes mellitus, cardiac disease, unrecognized chronic hypertension, positive family history of PIH which shows genetic susceptibility, psychological stress, alcohol use, rheumatic arthritis, very underweight and overweight, and low level of socioeconomic status are the risk factors for PIH [5,8-10].

According to a population based study in South Africa the incidence of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy was 12% and hypertension disorder of pregnancy was the commonest cause of maternal death which contributed 20.7% of maternal deaths [11]. Similarly Ethiopian Demographic Health survey (EDHS) 2011 reported, maternal mortality ratio is 676 deaths per 100,000 live births and pregnancy induced hypertension the second leading cause of maternal death [12]. A review study conducted on the causes of maternal mortality in Ethiopia showed that, the proportion of maternal mortality in Ethiopia due to hypertensive disorders between 1980 and 2012 is in increased trend from 4%-29% [13].

Pregnancy induced hypertension is leading causes of pregnancy associated morbidity and it is most frequent cited cause of maternal death [14]. Despite the fact that hypertensive disorders in pregnancy is leading causes of maternal morbidity and mortality during pregnancy but little is known about the current magnitude and associated factors among pregnant women in Ethiopia and specifically in Jimma. This study therefore aims to fill this gap by assessing the current status and factors associated with hypertensive disorders in pregnancy

among pregnant women attending antenatal service in Jimma town, south west Ethiopia, through health facility based cross sectional study. It is hoped that the results of the study will provide valuable information for the design of possible programs and interventions.

### Methods

#### Study area and period

The study was conducted in Jimma town public health facilities from March 01-30/2015. The town is located 357 kilometers to southwest of Addis Ababa. The total population projection of 2014/15 Jimma town was 184925. The town has one referral hospital, one district hospital, four health centers and 47 private clinics. The total reproductive age groups and targets of pregnant women of Jimma town was 40692, 6834 respectively.

The study was conducted in all public health facilities found in Jimma town namely; Jimma University Specialized Hospital, Shenen Gibe Hospital, Jimma Health Center, Higher-2-Health Center, Mendera Kochi Health Center and Bacho Bore Health Center.

#### Study design

Health facility based cross-sectional study design with quantitative data collection method was used.

#### Source and study population

All pregnant women attending antenatal care service at Jimma town public health facilities during the study period were considered as source of population and all sampled pregnant women attending antenatal care service at Jimma town public health facilities during the study period were considered study subjects.

#### Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

All pregnant women attending antenatal care service with gestational age greater than 20 weeks were included in the study whereas pregnant women gestational age less than 20 weeks and those of critically ill and unable to communicate after full course of treatment were excluded from the study.

#### Sample size determination and sampling techniques

The sample size was calculated by using a single population proportion sample size calculation formula, then the final sample size was 356. The source of population was taken from twelve months report of pregnant women attending antenatal care service at all public health facilities of Jimma town. Then the average was taken, which was 2072 pregnant women monthly. The total sample size was allocated proportionally to the different care giving public health facilities found in Jimma town according to the number of pregnant women attending antenatal care service in the respective health facilities. Then the study participants were systematically selected from each health facilities. The first pregnant woman was selected based on lottery method and the rest were selected every six interval.

**Operational definition**

In this study, pregnancy induced hypertension was operationalized as if the blood pressure of pregnant women receiving antenatal care service is  $\geq 140/90$ mmHg after 20 weeks of gestation, measured two times six hours apart by trained data collectors and with or without proteinuria. Pregnancy induced hypertension includes gestational hypertension, pre-eclampsia, and eclampsia, superimposed preeclampsia on chronic hypertension, and Psychological stress operationalized as psychological stress measurement items of 9 questions score of single woman greater than that of the mean score was considered as psychologically stressed.

**Data collection and Instruments**

The data was collected using pre-tested structured questionnaire adapted and customized from validated questionnaire [15-17]. Questionnaires were first adapted in English then translate to Afan Oromo and Amharic by expert and translated back to English to see consistency of the question. Seven data collectors who were four diploma midwives and three nurses in qualification and four supervisors who were BSc nurses by qualification and who were fluent in speaking, writing and reading Afan Oromo and Amharic language were recruited purposefully from their respective facilities to maintain the quality of the data. Data were collected through direct interview and supported by reviewing of medical record or reports for pregnant women referred from different health facilities to the study area for the purpose of taking blood pressure and protein in urine at time of diagnosis. Pretested structured questionnaire was used by trained data collectors. Blood pressure measurements were taken in the sitting position after the woman has rested at least 10 minutes by using a mercury sphygmomanometer apparatus from non-dominant arm and for referred women; BP and protein urea at time of diagnosis were taken.

**Data Processing and Analysis**

EPI data Statistical software version 3.1 and Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software version 20.0 were

used for data entry and analysis. After organizing and cleaning the data, frequencies and percentages were calculated to all variables that are related to the objectives of the study. Variables with P-value of less than 0.25 in binary logistic regression analysis were entered into the multivariable logistic regression. Odds ratio with 95% confidence interval was used to examine associations between dependent and independent variables. P value less than 0.05 was considered as statistically significant.

**Data Quality Control Measures**

The quality of the data was assured by using validated pretested questionnaires. Prior to the actual data collection; content validity was checked by experts, pretest was done on 5% of the total study eligible subjects. The questions used to measure psychological stress adapted from validated questionnaire then after modification of the questions the reliability of the questions tested yielding cronbach's alpha value of 0.70. Data collectors were trained for one day intensively on the study instrument and data collection procedure that includes the relevance of the study, objective of the study, confidentiality of the information, informed consent and interview technique. The data collectors were worked under close supervision of the supervisors to ensure adherence to correct data collection procedures, supervisors and investigator checked the filled questionnaires at the end of data collection every day for completeness. Moreover, the data were carefully entered and cleaned before the beginning of the analysis.

**Ethical Considerations**

Written ethical clearance obtained from Jimma University, college of health science of Institutional Review Board. Permission was obtained from respective health institutions and written consent (signed on the informed consent sheet) was obtained from pregnant mother attending antenatal care service after discussing the objective of the study. For pregnant women were under 18 years old, the written informed consent were taken from parent. The right of the respondents to refuse answering for few or all of the questions were also be respected. The letter of ethical approval was attached with manuscript.

**Table 1:** Distribution of the study participants by their socio- demographic characteristics at Jimma town public health facilities, south west Ethiopia, March, 2015.

	Variables	Frequency (N=351)	Percent
Age of women	<20	88	25.1
	20-24	78	22.2
	25-29	119	33.9
	30-34	48	13.7
	$\geq 53$	18	5.1
Address of women	Rural	141	40.2
	Urban	210	59.8
Ethnic group	Oromo	252	71.8
	Amhara	42	12

	Yem	26	7.4
	Tigre	6	1.7
	Others*	25	7.1
Religion	Muslim	242	68.9
	Orthodox	81	23.1
	Protestant	27	7.7
	Catholic	1	0.3
Marital status	Married	341	97.2
	Other †	10	2.85
Educational status	None (Illiterates)	117	33.3
	Primary school(1-8)	158	45
	Secondary school(9-10)	38	10.8
	preparatory school(11-12)	5	1.4
	Diploma	17	4.8
	Degree and above	16	4.6
Occupational status	House wife	257	73.2
	Governmental employee	33	9.4
	NGO employee	6	1.7
	Self	52	14.8
	Labour work	3	0.9
Family size	01-Feb	143	40.7
	03-Apr	132	37.6
	≥5	76	21.7
Average family income	<793 (low income)	73	20.8
	793-2805 (middle income)	232	66.1
	>2805 (high income)	46	13.1

## Result

A total of 351 pregnant women participated in the study, 272(77.5%) from antenatal clinics and the rest were from pregnant women admitted to maternity wards. The mean age of the respondents was 24.83 with SD±4.85, 119(33.9%) were between age group of 25-29 years and 210(59.8%) were from urban and the rest were from rural areas. Ethnicity of the study subjects indicated that, 252(71.8%) were Oromo followed by Amhara 42(12%). Majority of the study subjects, 242(68.9%) were Muslims, 341(97.2%) were married, 158(45.0%) had primary education, 257(73.2%) were housewives, 232(66.1%) of them were in the middle income class and 143(40.7%) of them had family size of 1-2 (Table 1).

## Prevalence of Pregnancy Induced Hypertension

The prevalence of PIH among pregnant women receiving antenatal care services was 36(10.3%). The minimum, maximum and mean systolic blood pressure were 80mmHg, 190mmHg and 110.78mmHg with SD±17.10 respectively. The minimum, maximum and mean diastolic blood pressures were 50mmHg, 140mmHg and 71.85mmHg with SD±13.04 respectively. The result dipstick urine test, proteinuria ranges from negative to +++ .Out of the total of 36 pregnant women who had PIH, 11(30.6%) were gestational hypertension, 23 (63.9%) were preeclampsia and 2 (5.6%) were eclampsia.

## Variables Related to Obstetric Conditions

**Table 2:** Frequency distribution of factors related to obstetric conditions among pregnant mothers receiving antenatal care at Jimma Town Public Health facilities, Southwest Ethiopia, March, 2015.

Variables		Frequency (N=351)	Percentage
Pregnancy status	Wanted	264	75.2
	Unwanted	25	7.1
	Mistimed	39	11.1
	Planned	23	6.6
Gravida	Primigravida	141	40.2
	Multigravida	210	59.8
Parity	0	157	44.7
	1-4	178	50.7
	≥5	16	4.6
Gestational age	<37	321	91.5
	37-42	28	8
	>42	2	0.6
History of previous PIH	Had	5	1.4
	Not had	346	98.6
Multiple pregnancy	Yes	26	7.4
	No	325	92.6

From the total study participates, 264(75.2%) of pregnancies were wanted and 210(59.8%) of pregnancy were multigravida. Parity of the women showed that 178(50.7%) of women had 1-4 children and majority, 321(91.5%) had gestational age less than 37 weeks. Only 5(1.4%) of pregnant mothers receiving antenatal care service had previous history of PIH and 26(7.4%) of the women had multiple pregnancies (Table 2).

**Medical and Family History Related Variables/Factors**

Medical and family histories of illness formed the major predisposing factors, 5(1.4%) had history of chronic hypertension and 41(11.7%) of them had family history of chronic hypertension, 24(6.8%) of them had family history of PIH commonly from women's relatives, 88 (25.1%) of the respondents had history of kidney diseases during current pregnancy, 3(0.9%) had history of diabetic mellitus, 29(8.3%) and 21(6.0%) had history of rheumatic arthritis and asthma respectively (Table 3).

**Table 3:** Distributions of medical and family history risk factors among pregnant women receiving antenatal care service at Jimma Town Public Health facility, Southwest Ethiopia, March, 2015.

Variables		Frequency =351	Percent
History of chronic hypertension	Had	5	1.4
	Not had	346	98.6
Family history of chronic hypertension	Had	41	11.7
	Not had	310	88.3
Family history of PIH	Had	24	6.8
	Not had	327	93.2
History of DM	Had	3	0.9
	Not had	348	99.1
History of kidney diseases	Had	88	25.1
	Not had	263	74.9
History of rheumatic arthritis currently	Had	29	8.3
	Not had	322	91.7
Currently history of asthma.	Had	21	6
	Not had	330	94

**Variables Related to Personal Risks**

All of the respondents did not smoke cigarette, but 35(10%) had family members particularly their husbands who smoke cigarette (94.3%) and only 19(5.4%) of the women had any alcoholic drink in the past two years. Out of the total study participants, 308(87.7%) of the pregnant women used caffeine (coffee & tea) drinks. Among the users, 263(85.4%) use coffee and 45(14.6%) use tea commonly. A greater proportion, 318(90.6%) of the respondents had mid upper arm circumference  $\geq 21$ cm. More than half, 209(59.5%) of the respondents sleep 7-8 hours per night, 52(14.8%) sleep  $\leq 6$  hours, 90(25.6%) sleep  $\geq 9$  hours per night and 104(29.6) had a nap at day time. Only 31(8.8%) of the women were involved in scheduled regular physical exercise during their current pregnancy. Based on the nine items used to

assess psychological stress, 140(39.9%) of the pregnant women had psychological stress. Only 27 (7.7%) did not get diversified diet (Table 4).

**Table 4:** Distribution of the study subjects by their personal risk factors among pregnant women receiving antenatal care service at Jimma town public health facilities, southwest Ethiopia, March, 2015.

Variables		Frequency	Percent
Any family members who smoke cigarette	Yes	35	10
	No	316	90
Whom family members smoke cigarette(n=35)	Husband	33	94.3
	Other*	2	5.7
Pregnant mother drink alcohol in past two years (n=351)	Yes	19	5.4
	No	332	94.6
Time of alcohol consumption(n=19)	Before px	15	78.9
	Before and during px	4	21.1
Frequency of alcohol consumption (n=19)	daily	2	10.5
	every two day	17	89.5
Amount of alcohol consumption averagely per day (n=19)	One bottle	10	52.6
	Twobottle	9	47.4
Caffeine (coffee & tea) use (n=351)	Yes	308	87.7
	No	43	12.3
The commonly pregnant women used caffeine(n=308)	Coffee	263	85.4
	Tea	45	14.6
The amountcoffee consumption in cup per day (n=263)	01-Feb	156	59.3
	>3	107	40.7
Psychological stress during current pregnancy (n=351)	Not stressed	211	60.1
	Stressed	140	39.9
Diversified diet during current pregnancy (n=351)	Not get	27	7.7
	Get	324	92.3
Mid upper arm circumference in centimeter (n=351)	<21cm	33	9.4
	$\geq 21$ cm	318	90.6
Sleep patternin hours per night(n=351)	$\leq 6$	52	14.8
	07-Aug	209	59.5
	$\geq 9$	90	25.6
Mothers took nap per day (n=351)	Yes	104	29.6
	No	247	70.4
Perform scheduled physical exercise during current pregnancy (n=351)	Yes	31	8.8
	No	320	91.2

PX=pregnancy

Other\*= Children, Relatives, any other person live with family members

**Association between Dependent and Independent**

**Variables**

Age, family size, gestational age, multiple pregnancy, positive history of chronic hypertension, diversified diet and antenatal care follow up before data collection period were found to have significant association with pregnancy induced hypertension. Family history of PIH, family history of chronic hypertension, kidney disease, number of routine antenatal care follow up and psychological stress had strong statistical association with pregnancy PIH in binary logistic regression.

In multivariable logistic regression analysis, the factors contributing pregnancy induced hypertension were identified: Address, positive family history of chronic hypertension, positive family history of pregnancy induced hypertension, kidney diseases during current pregnancy and psychological stress had statistically significant association with pregnancy induced hypertension.

Pregnant women from a rural residence were more likely to report having PIH when compared to those of pregnant women residing in urban areas (AOR=5.31, 95%CI=(1.52-18.57), women receiving antenatal care service at Jimma Town Public Health facilities, Southwestern Ethiopia, March 2015.

p=0.009), those who had family history of chronic hypertension were 9.903 times more likely to develop PIH when compared with pregnant women those who did not have family history of chronic hypertension (AOR=19.9 at 95% CI= (2.31-42.44), p=0.002) and those pregnant women who had family history of pregnancy induced hypertension were more likely to develop pregnancy induced hypertension than those did not have family history of chronic hypertension (AOR=9.13 at 95%CI= (2.33-35.78), p=0.002).

Findings of the study showed that those pregnant women with kidney disease during current pregnancy were more likely to develop PIH as compared to pregnant women with pregnancy did not have kidney disease during pregnancy (AOR=3.97 at 95%CI=(1.36-11.56), p=0.012) and being psychologically stressed during pregnancy increases the likelihood of PIH by 5.79 times. (AOR= 5.79, 95%CI= (1.66-20.25, P=0.006) when compared to those pregnant women who did not have psychological stress during pregnancy (Table 5).

**Table 5:** Multivariable logistic regression analysis result for variables associated with pregnancy induced hypertension among pregnant women receiving antenatal care service at Jimma Town Public Health facilities, Southwestern Ethiopia, March 2015.

Variables/ factors		Pregnancy induced hypertension		COR (95%CI)	AOR (95%CI)
		Yes	No		
Address	Urban	17(8.1%)	193(91.9%)	1	1
	Rural	19(13.5%)	122 (86.5%)	1.77(0.89-3.53)	5.31(1.52-18.57)**
Family history of chronic hypertension	Yes	14(34.1%)	27(65.9%)	6.79(3.12-14.77)	9.90(2.31-42.44)**
	No	22(7.1%)	288 (92.9%)	1	1
Family history of PIH	Yes	12(50.0%)	12 (50.0%)	12.63(5.12-31.1)	9.13(2.33-35.78)**
	No	24(7.3%)	303(92.7%)	1	1
Kidney diseases	Yes	20(22.2%)	68 (77.3)	4.54(2.23-9.24)	3.97(1.36-11.56)*
	No	16 (6.1%)	247(93.9%)	1	1
Psychological stress	Not stressed	8 (3.8%)	203 (96.2%)	1	1
	Stressed	28 (20.0%)	112 (80.0%)	6.34(2.80-14.39)	5.79(1.66-20.26)**

The above table shows variables the statistically significant variables in the multiple logistic regression analysis after adjusting

variables candidate for multivariable logistic regression (Age of women, address, occupational status, monthly income, family size, gestational Age, multiple pregnancies, history of chronic hypertension, family history of chronic hypertension, family history of PIH, kidney diseases, alcohol intake, diversified diet, sleep pattern, had a nap at day time, (Antenatal) ANC follow up, non-routine ANC follow up, utilization of health facility for other problem and Psychological stress)

**Discussion**

Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy are an important cause of severe morbidity, long-term disability and death among mothers and their babies [18]. In this study, the prevalence of pregnancy PIH among pregnant women receiving antenatal care service was 36(10.3%). This reflects that the morbidity and mortality of the mother and the fetus high due to this diseases condition. If appropriate preventive measures are not taking

place, the risk of PIH among pregnant women might be ranked as first cause of maternal mortality. This finding was slightly higher than global prevalence of pregnancy induced hypertension which ranges between 5-10% [18] and also systematic review study conducted in Nigeria shows that the prevalence of PIH ranges between 2% to 10% [19]. In addition to the above studies, the prevalence of PIH in this study was higher than the studies conducted in Iran which was 9.8% [20], India 7.8% [21], Port Elizabeth 6.69% [6], and Ethiopia (Tikur Anbessa hospital 5.3% [22] and Jimma University specialized hospital 8.5% [23]. The possible explanation for this difference might be the difference in study period, study design which most of them used longitudinal study design, sample size and study area. In addition to this, the gap might be due to current health policy of the country which was focused on implementation of focused ANC and exempted service for maternal care might be increases the health care seeking behaviour of pregnant women which increases the

detection of the case. On the other hand an increment of the prevalence of PIH might be related to an increased burden of non-communicable diseases in our country.

On the other hand, the prevalence of PIH in this study was lower than the studies conducted in Brazil [14] and South Africa [11] which were 13.9% and 12% respectively. This gap might be due to the differences in the study period, sample size, geographical difference of the study areas and health seeking behavior of the pregnant women in the area.

This study also revealed that factors associated with pregnancy induced hypertension; residence, positive family history of chronic hypertension, positive family history of pregnancy induced hypertension, kidney diseases and psychological stress are statistically significant association with PIH. Pregnant women from a rural residence were five times more likely to develop PIH when compared to those of pregnant women residing in urban areas.

This finding was in line with the study conducted at Jimma University Specialized Hospital which showed that rural residents were more suffered with pregnancy induced hypertension than urban dwellers [23] but inconsistent with the comparative cross sectional study conducted in Ghana showed that pregnancy induced hypertension common among urban than rural area (3.1% versus 0.4% ) [24]. The discrepancy might be due to the difference in the study area, health polices of the country, lifestyle of urban women's of Ghana and health seeking behavior Ghana's rural community.

According to this study, those women who have positive family history of chronic hypertension and positive family history of pregnancy induced hypertension had about ten and nine times respectively greater odds of developing pregnancy induced hypertension as compared to those who haven't it. This finding is consistent with that of studies conducted in Pakistan [8], Ghana [24] and New York [25] shows that family history of chronic hypertension and family history of PIH had strong association with PIH and also text book of current diagnosis and treatment in obstetrics and gynecology support this finding [2]. This might have occurred due to genetic factors that contribute to the physiologic predisposition of pregnancy induced hypertension.

As this study showed, having kidney disease during pregnancy increases the likelihood of pregnancy induced hypertension by 3.97 times. This finding is similar with the study conducted in the United Kingdom [26] and Netherlands and New York [25] which showed that preexisting renal disease had a significant association with pregnancy induced hypertension and other theories support that renal physiological function had direct relationship with cardiovascular system [27].

According to this study, being psychologically stressed during pregnancy increases the likelihood of pregnancy induced hypertension by 5.79 times. This result was consistent with a study conducted in New York [9] and also this finding is in lined

with a study conducted in Sri Lanka with a slight difference [10]. Stress activates the hypothalamus-pituitary-adrenal cortex system (HPA), which in turn increases in levels of corticosteroids and catecholamine. Stress also activates the sympathetic nervous system and affects the immune system and increased levels of corticotrophin-releasing hormone and increased sympathetic activity which increases the risk of PIH [28].

This study identified the factors contributing pregnancy induced hypertension, so all pregnant women having such risk factors should supplemented with calcium, low dose of aspirin to prevent it and early detection and treatment mandatory to reduce the morbidity and mortality of women secondary to PIH. This cross-sectional study has possible limitations that may arise from pregnant women's readiness and ability to provide every information about themselves and their family correctly based on which PIH was measured and recall bias may be introduced during data collection from the pregnant women as they were self-referred.

However; measure has been taken to minimize these limitations were using questions targeted information. The others limitation of this study was few variables have small observation which causes lower precision, so it was carefully interpreted. Moreover, the use of pretested and validated questionnaire, inclusion of all public health institutions found in Jimma town and data collection from both in patient and ANC unit were other strengths of this study.

### Conclusion

The prevalence of pregnancy induced hypertension among pregnant women receiving antenatal care service was 36(10.3%). Among pregnancy induced hypertension, preeclampsia was the most common especially among those pregnant women admitted to maternity ward. The rural residence, positive family history of chronic hypertension, positive family history of pregnancy induced hypertension, chronic renal diseases (kidney diseases) and psychological stress during pregnancy were the associated factors with pregnancy induced hypertension.

### Declaration

#### Ethical approval and consent to participants

Written ethical approval was obtained from Jimma University, college of health science of Institutional Review Board. Permission was obtained from respective health institutions and written consent was obtained from pregnant mother attending antenatal care service after discussing the objective of the study. And also we attached the ethical declaration letter at the annex of this manuscript.

#### Availability of data and material

The data set during the current study is available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

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The budget of this study was funded by Jimma University and the researchers of Jimma University and Mizan-Tepi University participated on this study from proposal development, data collection and analysis, and writing the manuscript.

## Authors' contribution

T A, TB and SB were developed a concept of research work, proposal development, data collection, analysis, writing findings. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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