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A SEVEN YEAR STUDY OF STILLBIRTHS AND NEONATAL DEATHS IN UKMMC: 2004-2010

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Background:
Data of stillbirth (SB) and neonatal deaths (ND) are routinely collected in tertiary hospital in Malaysia. The objective of this study was to analyze the trend of SB and ND in UKMMC from 2004 until 2010.

Materials and Methods:
A retrospective cross-sectional study was conducted. The Rapid Reporting Format of SB and ND were analyzed along with the monthly data from the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology UKMMC. Study populations were cases in UKMMC during the study period.

Results:
The total deliveries in the seven year period were 45 277. The total live births were 44 994 and the total cases of SB and ND were 526. Stillbirth consisted of 54% of total deaths and 46% of the deaths were made up from neonatal deaths. The major cause of death in SB was normally formed macerated stillbirths (53.2%), followed by prematurity in neonatal deaths. Women who did not have any antenatal care delivered a higher percentage of stillbirth cases, 70.3%. The mean maternal age between SB and ND are almost similar. The analysis showed that parity of more than five had the highest mortality rate in SB and ND. Maternal medical illness such as hypertension and other medical conditions such as thyrotoxicosis and systemic lupus erythematosus were significantly associated with SB and ND.

Conclusion:
As maternal health improves, there is generally a greater reduction in neonatal deaths, increasing the proportion of perinatal deaths attributed to stillbirth. Screening of maternal conditions such as hyperthyroidism in pregnancy is suggested as prevention for SB.

Keywords:
Stillbirths, neonatal deaths, perinatal deaths, analysis, trends.