


**Research Article**

## Single Versus Multiple Dose of Antibiotic Prophylaxis in Caesarian Section: A Randomized Controlled Trial

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### Abstract

**Background:** Single-dose prophylaxis, a type of prophylactic antibiotic, used in a caesarean section usually helps in lessening the growth of microorganism confrontation. Single-dose prophylaxis is a very short course of an antibiotic used just before the surgery begins which helps in the improvement of aseptic and surgical procedures and reduces postoperative wound infections more effectively than multiple doses of it.

**Methods:** This study is a single-blinded single centred randomized control trial which was conducted at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, in Shahed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital. The study period for this trial was June 13- to November 13. The sample size for this study was 136.

**Result:** In the study group most of the respondents 54(79.4%) were aged between 20-25 years wherein in the control group most of the respondents 54(79.4%) were aged between 20-25 years. In the control group, most of the operations 45(66%) had needed <30 minutes wherein in the control group most of the operations 55(80.9%) had needed <30 minutes. In the caesarean section of the study group, 13(19.1%) were routine patients while 44(64.7%) were emergency. On the other hand, in the caesarean section of the control group 13(19.1%) were routine patients while 55(80.9%) were emergency. The grade O wound infection of the study group was 54(79.4%) whereas the control group was 53(77.9%) and followed by grade I was 11(16.2%) in both groups, grade III in the study group was 3(4.4%), grade IV in the control group was 4(5.9%). Most of the respondents of the study group 48(70.7%) had stayed between 3-5 days after the operation and wherein the control group 55(80.9%) had stayed between 3-5 days after the operation.

**Conclusion:** Single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis is equally effective and less costly than multi-dose in uncomplicated gynecology and obstetrics cases and can be instituted in our setting.

**Keywords:** Single Dose Antibiotic Prophylaxis; Obstetric; Gynecological Surgeries; Patients Satisfaction

### Introduction

Prophylactic antibiotics in surgery are generally used to avoid post-operative infection, morbidity, and mortality, and to reduce the duration of operation and also the cost of treatment [1]. Single-dose prophylaxis, a type of prophylactic antibiotic, used in a caesarean section usually helps in lessening the growth of microorganism confrontation [2]. Single-dose prophylaxis is a very short course of an antibiotic used just before the surgery begins which helps in the improvement of aseptic and surgical procedures

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and reduce the postoperative wound infections [3-6]. Studies had found that caesarean deliveries are more likely to cause wound infections compared to vaginal deliveries[7, 8]. Several studies had advocated that the appropriate use of a single dose antibiotic prophylaxis during caesarean delivery significantly reduces the incidence of surgical site infections much more effectively compared to the multiple-dose of antibiotics [9-14]. Surgical site infections cause longer hospital day stays by an average of 7 days which increases the treatment cost up to \$3000 [15, 16]. In recent years, the costs of antibiotics have increased intensely and to prescribing of expensive broad-spectrum rather than narrow-spectrum antibiotics has become a trend worldwide [17]. Besides, to treat Obst and Gynae surgeries with multiple doses of broad-spectrum antibiotics for long 7-10 days which have evidence of decreased compliance and drug resistance and also the cost is a concern. Although single-dose prophylaxis has not been accepted widely in comparison to multiple-dose regimens recent studies and guidelines advocated that single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis is equally effective in clean, and clean-contaminated surgical procedures as multiple-dose antibiotic prophylaxis [18-23]. In this sense, the use of single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis is considered to be a cost-effective treatment option that maximum patients can afford. Besides, preoperative initiation of a single dose of antibiotics is equally effective as multiple doses for preventing postpartum infections [24-26]. Initiation of antibiotic prophylaxis within an hour before skin incision had been proven more effective to reduce post-caesarean infectious morbidity compared to initiating it after cord clamping and also it does not affect neonatal infection improvement [27-31]. Another study reported that using antibiotic prophylaxis for the caesarean section before skin incision decreases 40% in postpartum endometritis and 30% wound infection compared with after umbilical cord clamping of the same drug [32]. Hence, this study was conducted to evaluate the usefulness of single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis in obstetric and gynaecological surgeries and assess the patient's satisfaction regarding the cost in comparison to their income, side effects and hospital day stays.

### Objective of the study

The objective of this study was to evaluate the usefulness of single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis in obstetric and gynaecological surgeries and assess the patient's satisfaction regarding the cost in comparison to their income, side effects and hospital day stays.

### Materials and Methodology

This study is a single-blinded single centred randomized control trial which was conducted at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, in Shahed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital. The study period for this trial was June 13- November 2013. The sample size for this study was 136.

### Inclusion criteria

- All obstetric and gynaecological operated patients in the abdominal route
- The adult patients who were aged between 20-35 years.
- The participants who were willing to give their consent after knowing the study's purpose.

### Exclusion criteria

- Patients with associated medical disorders like hypertension, diabetes mellitus, Ischemic heart disease, Autoimmune disease or any other chronic disease.
- Patients or attendance unwilling to take part in the study.

The antibiotics were administered only within half an hour before the operation. For obstetric cases Cefuroxime+inj. Metro and for gynaecological cases Ciprofloxacin+inj. Metro was used as a broad- spectrum antibiotic. After the postoperative follow- up, all the required data were recorded which were further used for this study purpose. All the medical history was collected from the hospital authority considering the ethical issue. The written consent was taken from all the respondents and they were made aware of the study's purpose. The data were analyzed with the statistical tool SPSS version 21.

### Result

Figure 1 shows the age distribution of the respondents. In the study group most of the respondents 54(79.4%) were aged between 20-25 years and followed by 9(13.2%) were 26-30 years and 5(7.4%) were 31-35 years wherein the control group most of the respondents 54(79.4%) were aged between 20-25 years and followed by 5(7.4%) were 26-30 years and 9(13.2%) were 31-35 years. Figure 2 clarifies the monthly income of the respondents. The respondents of the study group 3(4.4%) had income between 2100-4000 TK and followed by 5(7.4%) had 4100-6000, 32(47.1%) had 6100-8000, 17(25.0%)

had 8100-10000 and 11(16.2%) had >1000 TK on the hand the respondents of the control group 2(2.9%) had income between 4100-6000 TK and followed by 15(22.1%) had 6100-8000, 6(8.8%) had 8100-10000,7(10.3%) had >1000 TK. Table 1 explains the mode of operation among the respondents. In the caesarean section of the study group, 13(19.1%) were routine patients while 44(64.7%) were emergency. On the other hand, in the caesarean section of the control group 13(19.1%) were routine patients while 55(80.9%) were emergency. This table shows the duration of operation of the respondents. In the control group, most of the operations 45(66%) had needed <30 minutes and 23(34%) were carried out between 30-60 minutes wherein in the control group most of the operations 55(80.9%) had needed <30 minute and 30(19.1%) were carried out between 30-60

minute. This table represents the cost of the antibiotic for the respondents. The cost of cefuroxime+metro for the study group was 270/-, where the control group was 1974/-. Table 4 shows the distribution of study patients according to Wound-Southampton wound grading. The grade O wound infection of the study group was 54(79.4%) whereas the control group was 53(77.9%) and followed by grade I was 11(16.2%) in both groups, grade III in the study group was 3(4.4%), grade IV in the control group was 4(5.9%). This table shows the days of stay at the hospital of the respondents. Most of the respondents of the study group 48(70.7%) had stayed between 3-5 days after the operation and followed by 16(23.5%) who stayed 5-7 days and 4(4.9%) stayed >7 days wherein the control group 55(80.9%) had stayed between 3-5 days after the operation and followed by 8(11.8%) stayed 5-7 days and 5(7.4%) stayed >7 days. This table explains the complication of the study patients where a few of the respondents 4(5.9%) faced nausea but in the control group dry mouth was seen in 2(2.9%), nausea in 12(17.6%) and vomiting in 1(1.5%) cases (Table-6).

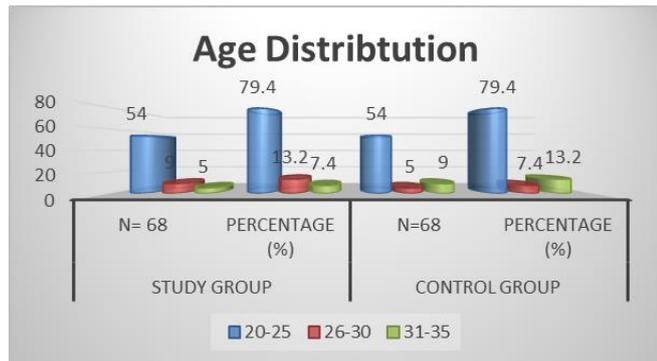


Figure 1: Age Distribution of the Respondents.



Figure 2: Monthly Income of the Respondents.

Table 1: Mode of Operation among the Respondents.

Mode of Operation		Study Group		Control Group	
		N=68	Percentage (%)	N=68	Percentage (%)
Caesarean section	Routine	13	19.1	13	19.1
	Emergency	55	80.9	55	80.9

Table 2: Duration of Operation of the Respondents.

Cost of Antibiotic	Study Group	Control Group
Name of Antibiotic	Cefuroxime+Metro	Cefuroxime+Metro
Cost in Tk	270	1974

Table 3: Cost of the Antibiotics.

Wound Infection Grading	Study Group		Control Group	
	N=68	Percentage (%)	N=68	Percentage (%)
Grade O	54	79.4	53	77.9
Grade I	11	16.2	11	16.2
Grade II	0	0.0	0	0.0
Grade III	3	4.4	0	0.0
Grade IV	0	0.0	4	5.9
Grade V	0	0.0	0	0.0

Table 4: Distribution of Study Patients According to Wound-Southampton Wound Grading.

Grade	Study Group (N=68)	Study Group (%)	Control Group (N=68)	Control Group (%)
Grade O	54	79.4	53	77.9
Grade I	11	16.2	11	16.2
Grade II	0	0.0	0	0.0
Grade III	3	4.4	0	0.0
Grade IV	0	0.0	4	5.9
Grade V	0	0.0	0	0.0

Table 5: Days of Stay at the Hospital.

Hospital Stay (Day)	Study Group		Control Group	
	N=68	Percentage (%)	N=68	Percentage (%)
3-5	48	70.6	55	80.9
5-7	16	23.5	8	11.8
>7	4	5.9	5	7.4

Table 6: Complication of the Study Patients.

Complication	Study Group		Control Group	
	N=68	Percentage (%)	N=68	Percentage (%)
Dry Mouth	0	0.0	2	2.9
Nausea	4	5.9	12	17.6
Vomiting	0	0.0	1	1.5
Diarrhea	0	0.0	0	0.0
Skin rash	0	0.0	0	0.0

## Discussion

Prophylactic antibiotics are primarily used to lessen surgical site infection, morbidity and mortality in obstetric and gynaecological surgery. Hence, the initiation of antibiotic prophylaxis for caesarean section and gynecologic surgeries should be perioperative which ensures a high plasma concentration of antibiotics at the time of operation. Numerous recent studies in obstetric and gynaecological fields advocated in favour of the positive role of prophylactic antibiotics. Many studies disclosed that proper and timely administration of single-dose prophylactic antibiotics can prevent postoperative infection. In the study group, most of the respondents 79.4% were aged between 20-25 years and

followed by 13.2% were 26-30 years and 7.4% were 31-35 years wherein in the control group most of the respondents 79.4% were aged between 20-25 years and followed by 7.4% were 26-30 years and 13.2% were 31-35 years [Figure 1]. Mohan J et al. in their study showed the age distribution between 21-70 years where most of the patients belonged 21-30 years old [33]. The respondents of the study group 4.4% had income between 2100-4000 TK and followed by 7.4% had 4100-6000, 47.1% had 6100-8000, 25.0% had 8100-10000 and 16.2% had >1000 TK on the hand the respondents of the control group 2.9% had income between 4100-6000 TK and followed by 22.1% had 6100-8000, 8.8% had 8100-10000, 10.3% had >1000 TK [Figure 2]. In the caesarean section of the study group 19.1% were routine patients while 64.7% were emergency. On the other hand, in the caesarean section of the control group 19.1% were routine patients whereas 80.9% were emergency [Table 1]. Sadique I. et. al. also showed caesarean section in 81.6% of cases and followed by TAH at 6.55% and laparotomy at 6.55% [34]. In the control group most of the operations 66% had needed <30 minutes and 34% were carried out between 30-60 minutes wherein in the control group most of the operations 80.9% had needed <30 minutes and 19.1% were carried out between 30-60 minute [Figure 2]. The mean duration of surgery was 74.59 minutes [33]. The study of Lyimo et al. showed the duration was ≤60 minutes in 60.4% cases and >60 minutes in 39.6% cases [35]. The cost of cefuroxime+metro for the study group was 270/- where the control group was 1974/- [Table 3] A. I. Elbur et al. in their study showed the use of cefuroxime in 89.2% of cases [36]. R. Zaida in her study showed the Cost of antimicrobial therapy in Taka (Mean± SE) was 113.06 ± 24.533 [37]. The grade O wound infection of the study group was 54(79.4%) were control group was 53(77.9%) and followed by grade I was 11(16.2%) in both groups, grade III in the study group was 3(4.4%), grade IV in the control group was 4(5.9%) [Table 4]. Most of the respondents of the study group 70.7% had stayed between 3-5 days after the operation and followed by 23.5% stayed 5-7 days and 4.9% stayed >7 days wherein the control group 80.9% had stayed between 3-5 days after the operation and followed by 11.8% stayed 5-7 days and 7.4% stayed >7 days [Table 5]. Mohan J et al. in their study showed the mean duration of hospital stay was 8.2 days [33]. Another study found that 21.8% had stayed in the hospital between 1-3 days after the operation and followed by 50.1% who stayed 4-7 days and 21.2% stayed 8-14 days and 7% stayed >15 days [38]. A few of the respondents 5.9% faced nausea but in the control group, dry mouth was seen in 2.9%, nausea in 17.6% and vomiting in 1.5% cases [Table 6]. The administration single dose of prophylactic Cefotaxime is effective in preventing postoperative complications. The results obtained in this study show that single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis is as effective as conventional multi-dose antibiotic therapy. It is cost-effective when compared to the multi-dose regimen. The

resistance of microorganisms can be prevented by the use of this single-dose prophylactic antibiotic. This prospective study confirms that single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis had a beneficial effect on women undergoing elective caesarean section and gynecologic surgeries.

## Conclusion

The initiation of single-dose antibiotic prophylactic Cefuroxime is equally effective and less costly than multidose in uncomplicated gynecology and obs cases and can be instituted in our setting. Some studies emphasise that single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis is as effective as multi-dose antibiotic therapy. It is also proven to be cost-effective when compared to the multi-dose regimen. Besides, the use of this single-dose prophylactic antibiotic can prevent the resistance of microorganisms. Moreover, single-dose antibiotic prophylaxis had an advantageous consequence on women who had undergone elective caesarean section. The short duration of antibiotic prophylaxis helps in reducing medical costs, resistant micro-organisms, fewer side effects, less chance of bacterial resistance, less chance for allergies or toxicity, well tolerable and fewer postoperative complications.

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