



Health Literacy and Prenatal Care: Generalizability and Methodological Considerations

Sağlık Okuryazarlığı ve Doğum Öncesi Bakım: Genelleştirilebilirlik ve Metodolojik Hususlar

 Nesrin Ardahanlı¹,  Emre Köle²

¹Department of Nursing, Bilecik Training and Research Hospital, Bilecik, Türkiye

²Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Alanya Alaaddin Keykubat University, Antalya, Türkiye

Dear Editor,

We have carefully reviewed the article titled "Assessment of the Relationship between Health Literacy and Level of Knowledge on Prenatal Diagnosis and Antenatal Care in Pregnant Women" by Şahin et al.^[1] We congratulate the authors for this valuable study that addresses the relationship between health literacy and prenatal care, which is of critical importance in the field of maternal and child health.

The study by Şahin et al.^[1] showed that pregnant women with high levels of health literacy had more knowledge about prenatal diagnosis and care. This finding again demonstrates health literacy's value in improving public health, especially maternal and child health.^[2,3] However, we would like to evaluate the methodological aspects of this study. The study was conducted at a single center, and the sample group exhibited a homogeneous structure in terms of socioeconomic and educational levels. This may limit the generalizability of the findings and requires caution when developing health literacy programs for pregnant women

from different socioeconomic and cultural groups.^[4,5] No detailed information was provided regarding the psychometric properties of the health literacy scale used in this study. Providing more information about the validity and reliability of studies on the scale would increase the scientific quality of the study.^[6,7] Designing longitudinal studies to investigate the causality of the relationship between health literacy and prenatal information is essential for evaluating the effectiveness of interventions to increase health literacy and efficiently use resources.

In conclusion, although the study by Şahin and colleagues made an essential contribution to the literature, future studies should consider the abovementioned issues to produce more robust and generalizable results.

Conflict of Interest: None declared.

Use of AI for Writing Assistance: Not declared.

Financial Disclosure: The authors declared that this study received no financial support.

Peer-review: Externally peer-reviewed.

Cite this article as: Ardahanlı N, Köle E. Health Literacy and Prenatal Care: Generalizability and Methodological Considerations. Lokman Hekim Health Sci 2024;4(3):203–204.

Correspondence: Nesrin Ardahanlı, Nrs. Bilecik Eğitim ve Araştırma Hastanesi, Hemşirelik Bölümü, Bilecik, Türkiye

E-mail: nesrinardahanli87@gmail.com **Submitted:** 28.11.2024 **Accepted:** 01.12.2024



OPEN ACCESS This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>).



References

1. Şahin S, Ariöz Düzgün A, Ünsal A, İnan Kırmızıgül E, Sarıkaya E. Assessment of relationship between health literacy and level of knowledge on prenatal diagnosis and antenatal care in pregnant women. *Lokman Hekim Health Sci* 2024;4(2):80-9. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
2. Nawabi F, Krebs F, Vennedey V, Shukri A, Lorenz L, Stock S. Health literacy in pregnant women: A systematic review. *Int J Environ Res Public Health* 2021;18(7):3847. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
3. Albayrak M, Arslan HF. Health literacy levels of women attending a perinatology outpatient clinic for high-risk pregnancy follow-up. *Cureus* 2024;16(8):e68267. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
4. Rasmussen TD, Nybo Andersen AM, Ekstrøm CT, Jervelund SS, Villadsen SF. Improving health literacy responsiveness to reduce ethnic and social disparity in stillbirth and infant health: A cluster randomized controlled effectiveness trial of the MAMA ACT intervention. *Int J Nurs Stud* 2023;144:104505. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
5. Ahmadi F, Karamitanha F. Health literacy and nutrition literacy among mother with preschool children: What factors are effective? *Prev Med Rep* 2023;35:102323. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
6. Arsenović S, Oyewole O, Trajković G, Osborne RH, Wiltshire-Fletcher M, Gazibara T, et al. Linguistic adaptation and psychometric properties of the health literacy questionnaire in serbian language among people with chronic diseases. *Chronic Illn* 2023;19(3):605–24. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
7. Mohammed M, Kumar N, Zawiah M, Al-Ashwal FY, Bala AA, Lawal BK, et al. Psychometric properties and assessment of knowledge, attitude, and practice towards ChatGPT in pharmacy practice and education: A study protocol. *J Racial Ethn Health Disparities* 2024;11(4):2284–93. [\[CrossRef\]](#)