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The perception of episiotomy among iranian women: a qualitative study

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Statement of the Problem: Around 70% women who give vaginal birth suffer from perineal injury during childbirth, which may happen spontaneously or due to the incision made to facilitate childbirth. There are very few studies on the perceptions of episiotomy recipients about these services. Therefore, investigating the perception of these women is crucial for providing appropriate care. The present study was conducted to explain the perceptions of episiotomy recipients about these services. **Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:** This qualitative conventional content analysis examined 20 women who had undergone episiotomy using in-depth semi-structured interviews. Sampling was carried out in hospitals and health centers affiliated to Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences in Tehran through the purposive method until the saturation of data. Data were analyzed using conventional content analysis based on the stages proposed by Graneheim and Lundman. The accuracy and rigor of the data were assessed using the Lincoln and

Guba criteria. **Findings:** They analysis of the perceptions of women who had undergone episiotomy led to the extraction of one theme and two categories. The “change in perception and behavior” theme entailed one category covering negative experiences and views about episiotomy and another category covering positive views. **Conclusion & Significance:** The findings showed that women’s perceptions of episiotomy contained paradoxically positive and physical and mental health, it is recommended that health policy-makers devise plans to further boost the factors affecting episiotomy recipients’ positive views and eliminate those contributing to their negative experiences and views.

Biography

Maliheh Ghiasvand has completed her PhD in Reproductive Health from Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences. She is currently researching unnecessary interventions during childbirth and improving the quality of midwifery care.