ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted at Vajira hospital in Bangkok, Thailand. The objective of the study was to study the intention to manage pregnancy outcome among HIV positive pregnant women. The sixty-one HIV positive pregnant women were purposely selected for interviewing.

More than half (54%) of these pregnant women were aged under 26 years old and most had primary education only (56%). Almost half of them never had children. Gestation age at first antenatal clinic (ANC) of less than 12 weeks accounted for 28% and about one fourth had abortion history. A majority of them (80%) informed their husband about their blood test.

The findings revealed that most of the respondents (93%) decided to continue their pregnancies, and only about 7% decided to terminate their pregnancies. The HIV positive pregnant women (80%) discussed the intention to manage pregnancy outcome with their husbands. Ninety-eight percent of pregnant women had a positive perception toward benefits of early ANC.

It was likely that the younger HIV women (16-25 years) intended to continue their pregnancies more than the older ones. More pregnant women with older gestation age (over 12 weeks) decided to keep their babies than those with the younger gestation age (12 weeks and less) 95% and 88%, respectively. The pregnant women who were pregnant for the second or more times were more likely to terminate their pregnancy. There was no difference of intention to manage pregnancy outcome among HIV positive pregnant women who discussed the matter with either husbands or parents and relatives. The recommendation from this study is to encourage pregnant women to attend ANC within the first three month of pregnancy.