

Perceptions of Women Reporting Vaginal Discharge at Gynecology Clinics in Lahore

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Vaginal discharge is one of the most common symptoms of gynecological morbidity. The aim of the present study was to explore the perceptions of those women who reported with vaginal discharge. In-depth semi-structured interviews were conducted with seven women from both government and private hospitals of Lahore, Pakistan. Married women of 22 - 50 years of age were included in the study. Ideographic phenomenological data analysis was used to analyze the transcribed data through which researcher identified themes. The results revealed that most of the women perceived vaginal discharge as an illness, melting bones, *Pani Parna (Leucorrhea or discharge)*, and sign of infertility. The study highlighted the need for improving women gynecological health issues and provision of counseling services at the primary care health settings.

Keywords: Vaginal discharge, leucorrhea, perceptions, ideographic phenomenological analysis