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## *Using pregnancy to assess risk and predict women's health*

**Jeevika Patel<sup>1\*</sup>, Jayashree Koppikar<sup>2</sup>**

Faculty, Department of Nursing  
Ideal Institute of Nursing, Posheri, Palghar, Maharashtra, India

*\*Corresponding Author: Jeevika Patel*

*Email: jeevikapatel19@yahoo.com*

## **Abstract:**

Pregnancy exposes underlying genetic predispositions or vascular susceptibility for future disease. Leading cause of female deaths in the U.S. is cardiovascular disease. Meta-analysis examined risk of future CVD in pre-eclamptic pregnancies. Key meta-analysis examined the risk of future CVD in pre-eclamptic pregnancies. Meta-analysis demonstrated a 3.7-fold relative risk of developing hypertension 14 years postnatally. Mortality was increased by 49% at 14.5 years. Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy (HDP) affect 10% of pregnancies. HDP and placental syndromes are associated with increased risk of developing CVD. Pre-term births, miscarriages and stillbirths are independent risk factors.

## **Keywords:**

Pregnancy, Hypertensive disorders, Mortality, Cardiovascular disease, Hypertension