**Original Article:**

**High prevalence of anaemia in pregnant women of Lakhimpur District of Assam**

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**ABSTRACT:**

**Introduction:** Being a major public health problem in India, anaemia is the keyunderlying cause for 20-40 per cent of maternal deaths in our country. Despite of the availability of cost effective technology for detection and affordable treatment of anaemia, it remains as the most common nutritional deficiency disorder in India and in entire South-Asia.

**Methods:**Total 400 nos. of confirmed pregnant women were selected by simple random sampling in a hospital based study. Blood samples were collected from the patients after taking necessary consent. Estimation of Haemoglobin and blood grouping were carried out using standard procedure. Socio-demographic information of the patients like age, sex, caste, religion, community etc. were collected by face to face interview, recorded in a structured questionnaire, entered in SPSS for analysis.

**Results:** The prevalence of anaemia among the pregnant women in Lakhimpur district was found as

92.8 %. Among the pregnant women, prevalence of moderate anaemia was found to be highest 61.0 %, followed by mild anaemia 29.5 % and severe anaemia 2.3 %.Those who belong to the age group of 20-24 years showed highest 51.2 % prevalence of anaemia. Highest numbers of anaemic patients were found in the Scheduled Tribes followed by Tea Garden communities.

**Conclusion:** Our study revealed a very high prevalence of anaemia in pregnant women of Lakhimpur district of Assam, which needs immediate attention. Awareness regarding health & nutrition, supplementation of iron and folic acid tablets through different government and individual capacities can reduce the magnitude of this problem.

**Keywords**: Anaemia, Pregnancy