Improving the knowledge of pregnant patients about first-trimester ultrasound

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Objective
To determine the level of patient’s knowledge regarding the first-trimester screening ultrasound examination and to ascertain whether the use of targeted education could improve patient knowledge and therefore improve the quality of care.

Methods
A questionnaire was designed, standardized, and issued to all patients attending for their ultrasound of fewer than eleven weeks of pregnancy during the period in August-December 2017 (n = 207). There were ten questions (with 4 options, of which only one was correct), focusing on information and knowledge, about the first-trimester ultrasound. As a result of the information obtained, we gave a printed information sheet to the patients at the time of booking their first-trimester scan was introduced. We then issued the questionnaire for another 3-week period. Statistic analysis was done with McNemar test.

Abstract result
As a result of our educational tool, there was a significant increase in the number of women answering various knowledge-based questions correctly about the first-trimester scan, in those using the written information provided as a source of information (3.1 vs 7.4 P < 0.0001)

Conclusion
There was a significant improvement in the score by applying a written informative tool, is undoubtedly that patients need to be better informed about the information and the results that they will get from the first-trimester scan. Health professionals are fundamental in this process.