#### **Arabic abstract**

### مستخلص الدراسة

# تقييم معرفة واتجاهات السيدات تجاه ممارسة تمارين مابعد الولادة خلال فترة النفاس

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Assessment of Knowledge and Attitude of Women toward Postpartum Exercise

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Background: the benefits of exercise in postpartum period remain largely unexplored among Saudi women. Postpartum exercises are performed after delivery to enhance physical and mental health of women and started as soon as possible to improve circulation, strength pelvic flour and abdominal muscles and prevent transient and long term physical and mental problems. Study aim: to assess the knowledge and attitude of women towards postpartum exercise. Research question: what are the knowledge and attitude of women towards postpartum exercise? Design: quantitative descriptive cross- sectional design was used. Setting: Well-Baby and Obstetrics clinics in King Abdulaziz University Hospital. Sampling: convenience sample of 160 Saudi women who had given birth to a live full- term healthy newborn during the last 6 months. Data was collected over three months from the end of July 2017 to the end of October 2017. Tool: tow tool were used in this study tool one: a structured, interview questionnaire was developed by the researcher consisted of two parts was used to collect data. Part I: women socio demographic and obstetrical data. Part II: women knowledge about postpartum exercise. Tool two: women attitude towards postpartum exercise. Result: more than 70 percent of the women had good knowledge regarding postpartum exercise. Lack of support and lack of time in addition to the absence of healthcare advice regarding postpartum exercise were the main reason given by the women for not exercising. Social media and internet considered as the most postpartum exercise source of knowledge for women. More than half of the women had positive attitude towards postpartum exercise. Conclusion and recommendations: assessing women knowledge and attitude towards postpartum exercise helps healthcare professional to create an educational

programs that improve postpartum exercise knowledge and practice among childbearing women. Key words: postpartum exercise, knowledge, attitude.