

PubMed The shapes of the female pelvis. Contributing fa

Abstract

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[J Reprod Med.](#) 1996 Apr;41(4):242-50.

The shapes of the female pelvis. Contributing factors.

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Abstract

OBJECTIVE: To determine the etiologic **factors** that play a role in shaping the **female pelvis**.

STUDY DESIGN: The backgrounds of 611 pregnant women at term who underwent x-ray pelvimetry between 1962 and 1980 at term were extensively investigated.

RESULTS: Several facts were statistically significant. First, 24.1% of the patients had an android **pelvis**, although only 5.7% presented any sign of hyperandrogenism. Signs of hyperandrogenism were similarly encountered in patients with a gynecoid and any other type of **pelvis**. Second, the android **pelvis** was encountered mostly in patients exposed to strenuous physical activity during adolescence. Third, the anthropoid **pelvis** was encountered more often when the acquisition of erect posture was delayed beyond the usual age of 14 months, while a platypelloid **pelvis** was more frequent when erect posture was acquired before 14 months.

CONCLUSION: The final shape of the **female pelvis** seems to be determined by culture and environment as well as by genetics.

PMID: 8728076 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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