Doctors often push C-sections for extra income

By Lee Kyung-min

Some obstetricians recommended pregnant women have a Cesarean section (C-section) to make extra income, even if they know of the health benefits from natural delivery.

The study results were reported by the U.S. Medical News on Aug. 31.

The claim was made following a study conducted by health care economists Erin Johnson of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and M. Marit Rehavi of the University of British Columbia.



"Compared to vaginal birth, C-section is invasive, carries the risk of complications, and takes longer to recover from. In most cases, C-section should only be an option under extreme health conditions for either the mother or the baby," Johnson was quoted as saying.

"Performing a C-section might net them an extra few hundred dollars," Rehavi said. And for doctors who deliver at least one baby a day, that number is not insignificant.

This claim is further supported by the fact that doctors who purportedly performed more C-sections than necessary opted to have natural births when it came to their own pregnancies, as was shown in the research.

The study authors suggest that pregnant women be educated about the safety risks of C-section as well as the health benefits associated with natural birth.

Translation

제왕절개? 의사들 돈벌이 수단

제왕절개 수술이 산모나 태아의 건강과 관계없이 산부인과 의사의 주머니를 채운다는 연구 결과를 메디컬 데일리가 보도했다.

제왕절개는 자연분만과 달리 합병증의 원인이 될 수 있고 산모가 회복하는데도 훨씬 오래 걸린다.

제왕절개 한 건당 의사는 몇 십만원 정도를 더 받는 것으로 알려졌다. 출산하는 산모를 한 명만 진료해도 그 숫자가 모이면 무시못한다는 것이 보고서의 주장이다.

보고서는 산모가 제왕절개의 위험과 자연분만의 이득에 대해 안 후 분만 방식을 결정할 것을 권고했다.