Trend and Determinants of Neonatal Mortality in Rural Health Facilities in Afghanistan

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Presenter

FARZEEN Lailoma

Outline

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Introduction

Newborn mortality is a global concern, specially in developing countries .

SDGs target reaching 12 deaths per 1000 live birth for the years 2016 to 2030 . (WHO, 2020)

Globally, NMR reduced from 36 deaths per 1000 live births in 1990 to 19 in 2015 and the # of neonatal deaths decreased from 5.1 million to 2.7 million. (WHO, 2020)

2/3 of all these deaths happens in 12 countries and Afghanistan is one of these countries. (Dickson et al., 2014)

Introduction

There are three causes which are accounted for more than 85 percent of neonatal death.

1 - prematurity, and Low birth weight (28%)

2 - birth asphyxia (23%)

3 - infections (36%, which includes tetanus, sepsis/pneumonia, & diarrhea).

Currently, prematurity with its complications are identified as the 2nd leading cause of under-five mortality. (WHO, 2020)

Neonatal Mortality in Afghanistan

According AfDHS, NMR in Afghanistan was 22 deaths per 1,000 live births, meaning that one out of every 45 children died during the neonatal period.

Two-fifths of all deaths in the first 5 years of life occurred during the first month of life. (AfDHS, 2015)

AfDHS shows that there is lower rate of childhood mortality in urban areas than rural areas. For example, the infant mortality rate is 35 deaths per 1,000 live births in urban areas, as opposed to 54 deaths per 1,000 live births in rural areas (AfDHS, 2015).

Objectives

To examine the situation of neonatal deaths in Afghanistan based on literature.

To understand the variation of neonatal death rates among different type of health facilities in rural area.

To examine the determinants which have influences on neonatal deaths such as : gestational age, birth weight, gender, mother's age and education, mother's gravidity, socio-cultural beliefs, and practices, etc.

Methodology

Secondary data analysis of Afghanistan demographic and health survey 2015

Newborns who died in rural health facilities of Afghanistan

All rural health facilities of Afghanistan

Descriptive statistics, bivariate analysis, multivariable regression model will be applied.

A 95% confidence interval (CI) with a p-value of <0.05 is chosen for statistical significance using SPSS

Result and Discussion

According to literature, There are some differences on NMR among 32 provinces in Afghanistan, & the highest neonatal and infant mortality rate is in Nooristan province. (AfDHS, 2015)

According to literature, influencing factors such as gestational age, birth weight, sex, mother's age and education, mother's gravidity, lack of awareness, family wealth status, and etc. have direct effect on neonatal mortality rate. (Kibria et al. Globalization and Health, 2018)

According to literature, neonatal death rates varies among different types of health facilities in rural areas, with differences in the quality of healthcare in health facilities in each province of Afghanistan. (AfDHS, 2015)

Conclusion and Recommendations

Neonatal Mortality Rate is high in rural health facilities of Afghanistan.

MoPH, stakeholders & partners should make decisions and bring some changes in the policies for reduction of NM in rural health centers and facilities.

And, they should focus and work on influencing factors which have direct effect on reduction of NM.

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Thank you

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