

A Service Provision Assessment of Maternal-New Born Care in Karachi

Department: Community Health Sciences

Project Sponsors: Aman Foundation

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Summary:

Complications during pregnancy, labor and postpartum period are important reasons for women and infants' morbidity and mortality. Pakistan is the sixth most populous country in the world. An estimated 16,500 maternal deaths occur every year in Pakistan with MMR of 350/100,000 live births. 70% of women choose private providers over public sector facilities for their delivery believing the former provide better quality care.

A study is being conducted in Karachi with the objective of assessing quality of obstetric and newborn care available in a variety of settings ranging from small private maternity homes to the large public sector tertiary facilities for skill set of the facilities' staff, availability of necessary resources and equipment and patient satisfaction with the care provided. The assessment will be conducted by Service Provision Assessment (SPA) methodology of the MEASURE/DHS over a period of two years. The SPA methodology relies on four types of questionnaires i.e. the Facility Audits, Observation Protocols, Exit interviews and the Health Worker/ Provider Interview. A random sample will be drawn from a list of all facilities identified as delivery sites by the women in the preliminary study conducted by Department of CHS. All facilities located within the boundaries of Karachi city on this list will be mapped using standard GIS equipment.