MATERNAL MORTALITY AND STATUS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN KAFUE DISTRICT

BY

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A Dissertation Submitted to the University of Zambia in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of the Degree of Master of Arts in Population Studies

THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA
LUSAKA
2011
DECLARATION

I, PAMELA CHIRWA BANDA, declare that this dissertation:

(a) Represents my own work;
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBOH</td>
<td>Central Board of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Central Statistics Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFID</td>
<td>Department for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHMT</td>
<td>District Health Management Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>EOC</td>
<td>Essential Obstetric Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FGD</td>
<td>Focus Group Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immune Deficiency Virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICD</td>
<td>International classification of Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCH</td>
<td>Maternal and Child Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMR</td>
<td>Maternal Mortality Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOH</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMTC</td>
<td>Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPSS</td>
<td>Statistical Package for Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STD</td>
<td>Sexually Transmitted Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Traditional Birth Attendant</td>
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<tr>
<td>TFR</td>
<td>Total Fertility Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>United Nations Fund for Population</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children’s Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>US Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTH</td>
<td>University Teaching Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZDHS</td>
<td>Zambia Demographic and Health Survey</td>
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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to investigate the determinants and levels of Maternal Mortality and Status of Health Services in Kafue District. A scientific approach through exploratory study was employed to randomly select sample of 150 women from the four health centers in Kafue District. Data in form of tables, percentages, frequencies and graphs during data analysis were used to assess the determinants and levels of maternal mortality in Kafue District.

Respondents’ demographic record including age, education, social economic status, distance from hospital and cultural values were examined. Factors leading to maternal death and contributing factors were discussed through Focus Group and interviews with relatives of the deceased.

The study revealed that the levels of maternal mortality in Kafue ranged from 2 in 2005 to 6 and 5 in 2007 and 2009 respectively, a total of 21 maternal deaths in the past five years, with two of these deaths being recorded at Mwembeshi and Chanyanya respectively. A total of 19289 Institutional deliveries took place during the study period with Maternal Mortality Ratio of 108.8/100 000 live births. This implies that maternal death has reduced to one per thousand births in Kafue District which is much lower than the national maternal ratio of 5.9/1000 births (CSO, 2007:120).

The major causative factors in Kafue District were haemorrhage (68 %) followed by anaemia 18 %, abortion 9 % and HIV-related complications 6 %.

The study discovered that the referral system was not being effectively coordinated between health centres and the hospital in terms of referral movements.

In an effort to completely eradicate maternal deaths in Kafue district, a two way referral system from the community to the health facility and vice versa should be intensified and timely follow ups made. More vehicles/mobile clinics should be purchased for use at health centres to assist in transporting pregnant women who live very far from the clinic/hospital.
DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to my late mother, Enedy Nauluta Chirwa for the sacrifices she made during our trying moments and helping me to hope for the best in all circumstances, my husband Colonel B.J.L Banda and my beloved children, Antonette, Beejay and Kondwani.

I also dedicate this study to all the women who have died from maternal related complications.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

No one succeeds in the goal of his or her life and career without the support, encouragement and friendship of many caring people. As I reflect over the past years, I realize there have been many family members, friends, colleagues and academicians who have inspired and urged me to achieve as much as possible. I extend my gratitude to you all.

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Special regards to the Ministry of Education for sponsoring me through the Masters program in Population Studies, especially the Provincial Education Officer-Lusaka Province for the support during the research period.

I extend my appreciation and gratefulness to the health personnel from the four centres in Kafue, namely; Estates, Nangongwe, Railway and Kafue District Health Hospital who helped with data collection.

To my family, my husband Colonel Banda, my sisters Charity Kateule, Natasha Chirwa and my children Beejay, Kondwani and Antonette for their encouragement and believing in me. I thank you; without your encouragement I wouldn’t have made it this far. May God Bless you.

Above all I would want to thank the Almighty God for the knowledge; wisdom and strength in enabling me complete this project.