

***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***

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## TABLE OF CONTENT

TITLE OF THE DISSERTATION .....	
DECLARATION.....	
COPYRIGHT .....	
APPROVAL .....	
ABSTRACT.....	IV
DEDICATION.....	V
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	VI
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	VII
LIST OF TABLES .....	X
LIST OF FIGURES .....	XI
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS .....	XIII
CHAPTER 1.0: INTRODUCTION.....	1
<i>1.1:Background</i> .....	1
1.1:Statement of the Problem.....	2
1.2:General Objectives .....	3
1.2.1:Specific Objectives of the study .....	3
1.2.2:Research Questions.....	3
1.3.1: Significance of the study.....	4
1.4:Conceptual Frame work .....	5
1.6: Literature Review .....	9
1.6.1:Introduction .....	9
1.6.2:Levels of Maternal Mortality.....	11
1.6.3:Safe Motherhood Initiative.....	12
1.6.4:Human Rights approach to Safe Motherhood .....	13
1.6.5:Safe Motherhood situation in Zambia .....	13
1.6.6:Provision of Health Services .....	14
1.6:Preventing Maternal Mortality .....	16

<b>CHAPTER TWO: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b> .....	17
2.1: INTRODUCTION: THEORETICAL ORIENTATION .....	17
2.2:Ethical and methodologies considerations .....	17
2.2.1:Study Population.....	19
2.2.1.1:Zambia.....	19
2.2.1:Kafue District:.....	20
2.3:Sample size and selection .....	21
2.4:Data collection.....	23
2.5:Data analysis .....	23
<b>CHAPTER THREE: BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS</b> .....	24
3.1:Introduction .....	24
3.2:Marital status of the respondents.....	25
3.3:Education level of respondents.....	25
3.4:Education level of spouses of the respondents .....	26
3.5:Percent distribution of respondents by employment status .....	28
<b>CHAPTER FOUR- PROVISION OF MATERNAL HEALTH SERVICES</b> .....	29
4.1:Introduction .....	29
4.2:Policies/guidelines on Maternal Health .....	29
4.3:Activities done by Health facilities on Maternal Health .....	30
4.4:Prevention of Maternal Deaths programmes.....	30
4.5:Referral Systems.....	30
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: LEVELS AND PATTERNS OF MATERNAL DEATHS</b> .....	33
5.1:Introduction .....	33
5.2: Maternal Deaths recorded at Kafue District Hospital .....	34
<u>5.3: Reported causes of Maternal Mortality in Kafue District</u> .....	35
<b>CHAPTER SIX: FACTORS INFLUENCING MATERNAL MORTALITY</b> .....	39
6.1:Introduction .....	39

6.2: Respondents seeking treatment at health centre before pregnancy. ....	40
6.3: Respondents who sought help from any other place .....	41
6.4: Respondents who sought treatment from health centre during pregnancy.....	43
6.5: Respondents who reported ever having a surgery prior to this pregnancy. ....	44
6.6: Respondents who reported ever having any miscarriages.....	46
6.7: Distribution of respondents who reported ever having a still birth.....	47
6.8:Traditional beliefs and taboos .....	56
6.9:Community views on factors affecting maternal mortality .....	63
CHAPTER SEVEN: SUMMARY,CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....	66
7.1.0: Summary .....	66
7.1.1:Health seeking behaviour of pregnant women.....	67
7.1.2:Causes of high maternal mortality .....	67
7.1.3:Provision of Maternal Health Services .....	68
7.2.:Conclusion:.....	70
7.3:Recommendations.....	73
BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	76
APPENDICES .....	77
APPENDIX I:LIST OF SAMPLED HEALTH CENTRES IN KAFUE DISTRICT .....	77
APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE 1 .....	78
APPENDIX III: QUESTIONNAIRE 2.....	87
APPENDIX IV: QUESTIONNAIRE 3:.....	95
APPENDIX V: FOCUS GROUP SCHEDULE.....	101

### LIST OF TABLES

<i>Table 3.1</i> .....	24
<i>Percent Distribution of Respondents by age</i> .....	
<i>Table 3.2</i> .....	25

Marital status of the respondents .....	
Table 3.3 .....	25
Educational Level of respondents .....	
Table 3.4 .....	26
Educational Level of spouses of respondents .....	
Table 3.5 .....	27
Percent distribution of respondents by employment status .....	
Table 6.1 .....	41
Percent distribution of respondents by personnel where they sought assistance .....	
Table 6.2 .....	42
Percent of respondents who sought treatment from somewhere else during pregnancy .....	
Table 6.3 .....	44
Type of contraceptive used by respondents .....	
Table 6.4 .....	46
Percent distribution of reports of danger signs during pregnancy .....	
Table 6.5 .....	49
Personnel who assisted to deliver at the health institution .....	
Table 6.6 .....	53
Percent distribution on seeking treatment for any illness at the health centre .....	
Table 6.7 .....	54
Place of delivery during last pregnancy by age group .....	
Table 6.8 .....	57
Percent of women who ever followed taboos during pregnancy by age group .....	
Table 6.9 .....	58
Educational level of respondents who sought treatment at health facility .....	
Table 6.10 : Percent of women who followed taboos during last pregnancy by education level .....	60

#### LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1 .....	7
Conceptual Frame Work .....	



<i>Figure 1.2</i> .....	9
<i>Estimates of Maternal Mortality</i> .....	
<i>Figure 3.1</i> .....	28
<i>Percent distribution by type of residential place</i> .....	
<i>Figure 5.1</i> .....	34
<i>Number of Maternal Deaths recorded at Kafue District Hospital</i> .....	
<i>Figure 5.2</i> .....	35
<i>Reported causes of Maternal Mortality in Kafue District</i> .....	
<i>Figure 5.3</i> .....	37
<i>Percent distribution of deceased women by education level</i> .....	
<i>Figure 5.4</i> .....	38
<i>Percent distribution of deceased women by place of death</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.1</i> .....	39
<i>Percent distribution of respondents having any medical problems before becoming pregnant</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.2</i> .....	41
<i>Percent distribution of respondents who sought help from any other place</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.3</i> .....	43
<i>Percent distribution of respondents who reported ever having a surgery prio to this pregnancy</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.4</i> .....	45
<i>Respondents who reported ever having any miscarriages</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.5</i> .....	46
<i>Distribution of respondents who reported ever having a still birth</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.6</i> .....	48
<i>Place of delivery</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.7</i> .....	49
<i>Percent distribution of respondents and time taken to be attended to deliver</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.8</i> .....	51
<i>Percent distribution of respondents by time taken to deliver</i> .....	

<i>Figure 6.9</i> .....	52
<i>Means of transport used to get to the Health Institution</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.10</i> .....	55
<i>Percent of respondents knowledge on traditional beliefs that women following during pregnancy</i> .....	
<i>Figure 6.11</i> .....	55

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

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

## 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, Etedy 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.

My special thanks and appreciation goes to my supervisor Dr. Jacob R.S Malungo (PhD), Senior Lecturer, for his patience, time, effort, insight and professional guidance from the outset of the programme up to the very end. My sincere thanks to Dr Namuunda Mutombo (PhD), for the professional guidance up to the final stage of the thesis and all the members of the Demography Department for their morale support and advice whenever I approached them. I would also like to recognize the technical guidance from Mr. Million Phiri for guiding me through the data entry process.

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.