FACTORS INFLUENCING HOME DELIVERY ASSISTED BY TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANTS IN BANGLADESH

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Abstract

Background: Bangladesh is committed to achieve Millennium Development Goals, especially to reduce maternal mortality ratio (143 per 100,000 live births by 2015) and infant mortality rate (32 per 1000 live births by 2015). Since traditional birth attendant (TBA) assisted home delivery is responsible for maternal and newborn deaths, it is important to characterize women who are assisted by TBAs for designing specific interventions to such groups. This study was conducted to find out the factors affecting the home delivery assisted by TBAs in Meherpur district of Bangladesh.

Methods: A cross sectional study was conducted, targeting the women who gave birth within one year prior to the survey. Binary logistic model was used to explore the factors influencing home delivery assisted by traditional birth attendants.

Results: A total 250 mothers were interviewed for this study. Fifty two percent mothers reported to have delivered at home assisted by TBA. Compared to women aged 25 years or less, women aged more than 25 years were 0.461 times less likely to be assisted by TBAs during delivery (OR=0.461, 95% CI: 0.247- 0.863). Mothers having secondary or higher education were 0.283 times less likely to be assisted by TBAs compared to those who had attained 5 years or less education (OR=0.283, 95% CI: 0.139- 0.578). Women having monthly family income 5001- 10000 BDT, were 0.363 times less likely to be delivered by TBAs than the women having family income less than 5000 BDT (OR=0.363, 95% CI: 0.166- 0.793). Women, who received more than three ANC, were 0.346 times less likely to be delivered by TBAs than who received 3 ANC or less (OR=0.346, 95% CI: 0.189- 0.631)

Conclusion: Findings from this study shows that TBA assisted home delivery is associated with young maternal age, low education, low family income and low ANC visits. To reduce maternal and neonatal mortality in the study area, these factors should be considered in the design of interventions.

Keywords: Home delivery, Traditional Birth Attendants, Meherpur, Bangladesh.