

Providers' and clients' perceptions and barriers in providing newborn health services in project and non-project townships of Magway Division

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Abstract

A comparative study was conducted in two selected townships; Seikphyu (essential newborn care project-township) and Magwe (non-project township) of Magwe division during September, 2009 to March, 2010. A total of 46 midwives (MWs) and 80 mothers were studied to investigate the perspectives of MWs and clients in delivering and receiving newborn health services. MWs who practiced post natal visits daily during the first week after delivery was higher in project-township compared to non-project township (67.5% versus 40.0%, $p=0.048$). MWs in project-township more practiced body temperature taking (57.5% versus 35.0%, $p=0.044$), avoidance of bathing after birth (92.5% versus 52.5%, $p=0.000$) and encouraged exclusive breast feeding practice (83.5% versus 60.0%, $p=0.026$). Barriers in provider side included inadequate equipment supplies, heavy workload, geographical barriers, and ignorance of clients. Mothers in project-township more received newborn care education (87.5% versus 52.5%, $p=0.001$), less practiced the application of substances into umbilicus (15.0% versus 32.5%, $p=0.046$) and more practiced exclusive breast feeding (80.0% versus 57.5%, $p=0.03$). Barriers in client side included busy days of MWs and geographical barrier.