

A Research-Based Policy Recommendation to Reduce Neonatal Mortality in Indonesia: Improving the Information Availability and Accessibility on Antenatal Examinations to Ensure Safe Delivery

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Abstract

Adequate use of antenatal information and its systematic analysis during different stages of pregnancy is crucial to assess the risks and preventable factors linked to maternal and neonatal mortality. In Indonesia, however, access to reliable data on pregnancy-related outcomes remains challenging. This research has proposed a research-based policy recommendation to improve accessibility to vital information on antenatal examinations. Literature reviews were used for synthesizing evidence from available original research. Lack of timely access to measurements of the key performance indicators for maternal and fetal risk assessment is one of the major barriers to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality in Indonesia. A scientific and technical training program has been conducted among midwives in South Kalimantan, Indonesia. The post-training statistical analysis showed that the training has significantly improved midwives' scientific knowledge and technical abilities in providing more reliable data on antenatal examinations. Consistent scientific and technical training among midwives is required to update their knowledge and skills, particularly those relevant to documenting the results of antenatal examinations and using that information to assess potential risks and identify necessary interventions. This can be one of the enabling actions to achieve the 2030 SDGs target in reducing maternal and neonatal mortality in Indonesia.

Keywords: Research-based policy, recommendation, antenatal examinations, neonatal mortality, Indonesia.

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