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Comprehensive Midwifery Services As An Effort To Reduce Maternal Mortality Rates

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ABSTRACT

The Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) remains an important indicator of public health status and the quality of maternal health services. One of the main strategies in reducing MMR is through comprehensive midwifery services that include antenatal, intranatal, postnatal, and family planning services. This study aims to determine the role of comprehensive midwifery services as an effort to reduce maternal mortality. This study uses a quantitative method with an analytical design and a *cross-sectional approach*. The study sample was mothers who received midwifery services at health service facility X. Data were collected using questionnaires and observation sheets, then analyzed using the Chi-Square test. The results of the study showed that good comprehensive midwifery services were significantly associated with a reduced risk of maternal complications that contributed to a decrease in MMR ($p < 0.05$). The conclusion of this study is that comprehensive midwifery services play an important role in efforts to reduce maternal mortality.

Keywords: Midwifery Services, Comprehensive Services, Maternal Mortality Rate





1. Introduction

The maternal mortality rate (MMR) is one of the main indicators used to assess women's health and the quality of healthcare services in a region. The MMR is defined as maternal deaths occurring during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period due to factors related to the pregnancy or its management. The high MMR indicates persistent challenges in access to and quality of maternal healthcare services.

The main causes of maternal death include hemorrhage, hypertension during pregnancy, infection, prolonged labor, and postpartum complications. Most of these causes are preventable through quality, continuous, and timely midwifery care. Therefore, midwifery care plays a strategic role in reducing maternal mortality.

Comprehensive obstetric care is a comprehensive and continuous service provided to mothers from pregnancy (antenatal care), delivery (intranatal care), postnatal care, and family planning. This service aims to detect risk factors and complications early and provide appropriate management.

In practice, many mothers still do not receive comprehensive midwifery care. Limited access, quality of care, and maternal compliance with health care visits pose challenges to efforts to reduce maternal mortality. Therefore, this research is crucial to understand the role of comprehensive midwifery care in reducing maternal mortality.

2. Research Methods

a. Types and Design of Research

This study uses a quantitative method with an analytical design and a cross-sectional approach.

b. Location and Time of Research

The research was conducted at health service facility X in April–August 2025.

c. Population and Sample

The research population was all mothers who received midwifery services at health service facility X. The research sample was taken using a purposive sampling technique.

d. Inclusion criteria:

- 1) Pregnant, giving birth, or postpartum women
- 2) Get midwifery services at health facilities
- 3) Willing to be a respondent

e. Exclusion criteria:

- 1) Mother with incomplete data

f. Research Variables

- Independent variable: Comprehensive midwifery services
- Dependent variable: Risk of maternal complications (indicator of decreased MMR)



**g. Research Instruments**

The research instruments were in the form of a comprehensive midwifery service questionnaire and a maternal service record observation sheet.

h. Data analysis

Data were analyzed univariately and bivariately using the Chi-Square test with a significance level of $p < 0.05$.

i. Research Ethics

The research was conducted by paying attention to the principles of *informed consent*, anonymity, and confidentiality of respondent data.

3. Research Results And Discussion**a. Research Results**

1) Respondent Characteristics

Table 1
Distribution of Respondent Characteristics
Characteristics Frequency (n) Percentage (%)

Mother's Age

< 20 years	8	13.3
20–35 years	38	63.4
> 35 years	14	23.3

Parity

Primipara	26	43.3
Multipara	34	56.7

Total	60	100
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2) Comprehensive Midwifery Services

Table 2
Distribution of Comprehensive Midwifery Services
Midwifery Services Frequency (n) Percentage (%)

Not comprehensive	21	35.0
Comprehensive	39	65.0
Total	60	100

3) Risk of Maternal Complications

Table 3



**Distribution of Maternal Complication Risk****Risk of Complications Frequency (n) Percentage (%)**

Risky	24	40.0
No risk	36	60.0
Total	60	100

- 4) The Relationship Between Comprehensive Midwifery Services and the Risk of Maternal Complications

Table 4**Relationship between Comprehensive Midwifery Services and the Risk of Complications**

Midwifery Services	Risky	No Risk	Total	p-value
Not comprehensive	15	6	21	
Comprehensive	9	30	39	
Total	24	36	60	0.001

Description: Chi-Square test, $p < 0.05$

b. Discussion

The study results showed that the majority of respondents had received comprehensive obstetric care. This care includes regular prenatal checkups, skilled delivery assistance, postpartum monitoring, and family planning services. Continuity of care allows for early detection of risk factors and complications that could endanger the mother.

The analysis results show a significant association between comprehensive midwifery care and the risk of maternal complications. Mothers who receive comprehensive midwifery care tend to have a lower risk of complications than those who do not. This demonstrates the crucial role of comprehensive midwifery care in preventing maternal mortality.

Quality antenatal care allows for early detection of pregnancy problems such as anemia, hypertension, and infection. Intranatal care provided by trained health workers can prevent and effectively manage childbirth complications. Furthermore, postnatal care plays a crucial role in preventing postpartum hemorrhage and infections, which are leading causes of maternal mortality.

The results of this study align with the concept of *a continuum of care* in obstetric care, which emphasizes the importance of continuous care from pregnancy to postpartum. Without comprehensive care, the risk of delays in managing complications increases and can lead to maternal death.





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The implications of this study's findings suggest that increasing the coverage and quality of comprehensive midwifery services should be a priority in maternal health programs. Strengthening the role of midwives, improving access to healthcare, and educating pregnant women are essential for sustainably reducing maternal mortality.

4. Conclusion And Suggestions

a. Conclusion

Comprehensive midwifery care is significantly associated with a reduced risk of maternal complications, which contributes to a decrease in maternal mortality. Mothers who receive comprehensive midwifery care have a lower risk of complications.

b. Suggestion

1) For Health Workers

Improving the quality and continuity of comprehensive midwifery services.

2) For Health Service Facilities

Expanding access to maternal health services and improving the quality of services.

3) For Mothers and Families

It is hoped that midwifery services will be utilized routinely and continuously.

4) For Further Researchers

It is recommended to conduct research with a cohort design or multivariate analysis.

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