

DISSERTATION TITLE:
**STUDY ON FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO LOW POSTNATAL
ATTENDANCE OF MOTHERS IN UNGUJA URBAN DISTRICT**

BY RAHMA AWADH SALMIN

ABSTRACT

Low Post-Natal attendance rate in Reproductive and Child Health clinic (RCH) in Unguja Urban district continue to be a public health problem for many years.

The attendance rate for post-natal mother had remained lower as compared to delivery rate which is high in the same period. This study therefore aims to finding factors contributing to low Post-natal attendance in Unguja Urban District.

A descriptive cross sectional study comprising of a proportionate stratified sample of 117 postnatal mothers from 12 Shehia aged between 20 to 43 and 45 health workers who were purposefully selected from 15 health facilities were included into the study. Respondents were subjected to interview administered questionnaires, self administered questionnaire, observation check list of health worker. The study was carried out from January to May 2009.

The study findings revealed that, the majority 103(88%) of postnatal mothers were not aware on post-natal services thus resulting into low of postnatal utilization that, 103 (88 %) of mothers were not attending post-natal clinic after delivery, also the finding show that 110(94%) postnatal mothers had low knowledge on importance of postnatal care and 105 (90%) had low knowledge on postnatal complications. Other factors contributing to low postnatal attendance were social and cultural beliefs hinders postnatal mothers not to attend postnatal care clinics which were, 44% due to lack of decision in the family and 80 (78%) of mothers were staying indoor for forty days. Also 103 (88%) of mothers who lived more than 5 km from home to health facilities

Furthermore the study found that 33% of health care providers having low knowledge on postnatal services provided in clinics. Majority of health workers had low skills on performing physical examination on postnatal mothers. This finding from the study indicates that there is a need for health care providers to sensitize community on the importance of postnatal care services and on complications that may arise during postnatal period and health care providers need retrained on importance of postnatal services.

According of this problem BASNEF model should be applied to solve the problem.