

Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome

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PREDICTORS OF ANTENATAL CARE UTILIZATION IN ETHIOPIA

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Background: Maternal morbidity and mortality can be prevented through appropriate health follow-up during pregnancy. Maternal death due to pregnancy related complications remains a major public health problem. Ethiopia is among the countries that contributes about 50% of maternal death; although improvement has been shown to wards reduction of child mortality, change in maternal mortality is very far from the MDG 5 target. According EDHS (Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey) 2011, maternal mortality ratio (MMR) is 676 per 100,000 live births. Despite the effort of the government to improve the health status of women, achieving significant change by increasing access to health facility is still very low. It is thus important to assess how maternal health care utilization is affected.

Method: This study utilizes secondary data on ANC service utilization and factors affecting, mainly from PubMed. The data were thoroughly analyzed.

Result: The result of the study is presented based on examination of literature within the context of the study objective. Maternal awareness, distance of the health facility from home, place of residence, education, income, age, parity, unintended pregnancy

and service satisfaction were strong predictors of ANC service utilization. EDHS 2011 indicated that ANC visit in women with secondary education and above were 91.3%, compared to 33.9% in those not educated.

Conclusion: This study has shown that the use of ANC service in Ethiopia is low and affected by women and facility related several factors. With regards to the women related factors awareness, place of residence, education, income, age, parity and desire of the pregnancy are important predictors. From the health facility aspect, distance of the facility, transportation conditions and service quality are found to be essential determinants to use ANC services. Therefore, utilization of ANC service could not be improved if the above predominant factors are not addressed. Since the problems have multiple natures, multi-sectorial collaboration to improve and solve personal factors of the women and institutional factors is very important. Improving maternal health status is also a key factor for national and economic development of countries because problem affecting women has intertwined effects on the child, family and nation.

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