

# Maternal Health Trends

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# Introduction

- Maternal health should entail the health of the girl-child,
- pre-pregnant and pregnant women,
- all women of childbearing age and beyond.
- The health of this comprehensive categories is strongly correlated with access to and quality of prenatal medical care, nutrition, and food security for both mother and child.
- Research is a very important vehicle to ensure quality of health care service delivery, including maternal health services.

# What does maternal health entail?

- Maternal health should entail the health of
- girl-child, prepregnant women,
- pregnant and women in labour
- all women beyond whether pregnant or not through perinatal medical care, nutrition, and food security for both mother and child including defending the rights of women (

# World health assembly 5 May 2019

- The theme was - **defenders of women's rights**

The assembly heard that midwives **are capable of providing 87% of the services needed** in the communities they serve as they are “skilled, knowledgeable and compassionate care for childbearing women, newborn infants and families”.

- The reality is that research should focus on finding ways to educate nurses for positive outcomes through positive outcomes
- Member countries where being encouraged to focus on inter-professional midwifery skills using evidence based education
- It is no mistake for midwives share this day with the day of safe water sanitation, and good hygiene - a phenomenon which is important for successful midwifery practice

# Linking research with quality education of midwives and quality of midwife practices

- The curriculum to educate midwives should be based on trends and actually address the needs of the society -
- Research should be seen as a way to develop critical thinking, an enquiring mind and problem solving for very complex problems
- Upon gaining a qualification a midwife should not only be a competent researcher but also have a passion and drive to be part of the profession that is there when you are born

# TUT research that ensure quality of midwifery

- 2015 : Exploring the meaning of caring amongst student midwives, professional midwives and educators in Tshwane, South Africa. Masala-Chokwe M.E and Ramukumba T.S. - emphasis on quality midwifery education

# Trends in midwifery research TUT

- Studies on men as partner in maternal health care evidenced by A publication “Men's reproductive health knowledge in Mankweng District, Limpopo Province.” 2017 Rasesemola RM, Masala Chokwe and Ramukumba TS help us understand that childbearing is important for both partners and they should equally knowledgeable
- 2017:A study by Ramalepa TN - Masters dissertation -.  
focused on the ever present teenage pregnancy issue in South Africa intended to explore and describe the views and lived experiences of teachers regarding pregnant teenagers in schools and to make recommendations that include learner pregnancy management guidelines.

# Trends in reproductive health research TUT

- 2017 : Makhavhu E.M.

The lived experiences of teenage fathers in Soshanguve, Gauteng province, South Africa : the study shed some light into the way teenage fathers experience the life changing event of being fathers. Young men also experience negative consequences of early parenting.

- 2017: Matshoge GP

Compliance to integrated school health programmes in the city of Tshwane showed that at school level issues of gender and HIV prevention are superficially dealt with.

2017: Mathikhi SM

Highlighted that even transportation of pregnant and women in labour can pose societal challenges that needs to be addressed.



# Trends in midwifery research TUT

- 2018: Dr Masala-Chokwe. A community-based social support programme for early discharged postpartum primiparas at Garankuwa, the city of Tshwane. Which found that the presence of family and community support in low resourced area is not a luxury but a necessity.

# Studies currently underway

- Annan Emma : immunization and vaccine pain management amongst children 6 - 12month old in Ghana
- Mudau TE: Experiences of patients on the care before and after caesarean section at three hospitals in the city of Tshwane
- Ajibola P: Compliance with national guidelines for maternal care on the management of pre-eclampsia
- Kanyane MGV: Perceptions of mothers regarding different birthing positions in selected health care facilities in Tshwane District
- Mathikhi EA: Exploration of indigenous childbearing practices in Makhado municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa

# From the B Tech Programme

- Studies on current cord care practices in the community
- Experiences of midwifery students in clinical practice
- The views of mothers about the disclosure of HIV status written on the road to health booklet at a clinic in the city of Tshwane
- **The validity of report writing in one academic hospital in Pretoria**

# What need to be researched

- The bioethical research studies - stem cell research, surrogate parenthood in SA context,
- indigenous knowledge systems in maternal health studies ,
- policy and guidelines developments ,
- the merits of National Health Insurance in SA ,
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# Conclusion

- The developments in midwifery and nursing research should be able to filter into the midwifery curriculum and midwifery practice.
- As older, experienced midwives are retiring, they should not only recognise current trends, but also prepare neophytes for the future through documentation of all