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Frontline health workers profiling of Maternal and New-born Care (MNCH) burden in local communities in Nigeria: A case study of Bauchi and Cross River State**Ibrahim Suleiman, Godwin Unumeri, Ekechi Okereke and George Eluwa**
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Statement of the Problem: Women and children are faced with a huge disease burden in local communities where Frontline Health Workers (FLHWs) deliver maternal, newborn and child health services.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: To find out about the disease burden with a view to designing appropriate interventions towards empowering FLHWs to respond to the situation. A house hold survey was conducted among 1,548 respondents in selected LGAs of Bauchi and Cross River States (CRS), as part of a need assessment that took place in host communities. The data was analyzed using SPSS software.

Findings: Reported illnesses among women were diseases (Bauchi: 20.9%; CRS: 8.4%), eclampsia (Bauchi: 5.2%; CRS: 0.2%), 41.4% were treated in PHCs and 33.3% in chemists with recovery rates (Bauchi, 54.2%; CRS 51.2%) and reported client satisfaction (Bauchi: 91.5%; CRS: 69.4%). Newborn and under-fives mainly suffered from watery stool (Bauchi: 36.5%; CRS: 10.9%), treated at PHC (Bauchi: 22.4%; CRS: 18.5%) and responded to treatment (Bauchi: 29.8%; Cross River: 33.2%) and to household satisfaction (Bauchi 55.6%, CRS: 39.3%). For under-fives' illnesses report included fever (Bauchi: 55.6%; CRS: 49.8%), cough with catarrh (Bauchi: 24.8%; CRS: 37.0%) and watery stool (Bauchi: 17.8%; CRS: 10.8%) with treatment occurring in PHCs (Bauchi: 29.5%) and patent medicine vendors (CRS: 28.3%). Successfully treated under-fives (CRS: 56.2%; Bauchi: 40.6%) to household satisfaction (Bauchi: 66.2%; CRS: 62.4%). Deaths occurred among women 64% (Bauchi: 53.1%; CRS: 46.9%), due to wish of god (Bauchi: 38.2%), diseases (CRS: 46.7%), inadequate FLHW care in (Bauchi 41.2%) and spiritual attacks (CRS 73.3%). Newborns and under-fives died 79% (Bauchi 67.1% CRS 32.9%) from unknown causes (Bauchi: 41.5%; CRS: 30.8%) and wish of God (Bauchi, 88.7%; CRS 38.5%).

Conclusion & Significance: Knowledge of household disease burden and perception of the causes of death will help in designing effective interventions for FLHWs to mitigate maternal and child health related diseases.

Biography

Ibrahim Suleiman has his expertise in health system strengthening, human resource for health and research. He is also a Reproductive Health Specialist working towards strengthening the health sector in collaboration with the Nigerian Government.

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