

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN MATERNITY HOSPITAL IN ERBIL GOVERNORATE

Back ground :

Maternal death is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental or incidental causes .It's either direct or indirect maternal deaths.

Aims of the study:

To estimate the maternal mortality rate among attendants of maternity hospital in Erbil city & compare it with that of previous years, also to find out the most common causes of maternal death, & the sociodemographic variations in maternal death.

Methods:

This is a descriptive study, involves reviewing of all maternal deaths occurred among all pregnant women and those who are at post partum period admitted to maternity hospital during the period of (2004-2008) using data collection form designed for this purpose.

Results:

During the last five years, maternal mortality rate (MMR) was 36.97/100 000 deliveries out of 91948 deliveries, 91.2% of them were direct maternal deaths.

The most affected age group was 25-29 years old, and half of them were multi gravida of >5 pregnancies.

Most of maternal mortalities (91%) occurred with deliveries. The maternal mortality rate among caesarian delivery is three times more than those delivered by vaginal route. Majority of maternal mortalities were occurred at postpartum and post termination period (70%), and 80% of dead cases were house wives.

The most common causes of maternal mortality were eclampsia and its complications (23.5%), pulmonary embolism(17.6%), & postpartum hemorrhage(17.6%).

Conclusion:

Maternal mortality rate in maternity hospital during (2004-2008) was decreased in comparison with that of (2000-2004) by a rate of 7.6 /100000 deliveries, it was three times less than that found in north Iraq at (1990-1999) & 2.5 times less than maternal mortality rate in Iraq at (2007).

More than half of deaths occurred due to causes that can be decreased by better supervision and management as eclampsia and bleeding.