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Tools for evaluation of effect of improved transport on maternal health in West Africa

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Appropriate tools for evaluating impact of transport services maternal health

- Need to,
 - Capture information at the three levels of delay
 - Measure Socio economic status
 - Assess Health status on arrival at health facility
 - Capture appropriate means of transport for terrain
 - Available means of transport

Methodology

- The study undertook fieldwork in Katsina State in Northern Nigeria.
- Ethical approval process was followed and secured from the State Ministry of Health Ethical Review Committee
- All women from 10 rural communities in each of 4 Local Government Areas who were referred with medical complications in childbirth were surveyed between February and March 2013.
- In total 704 women were surveyed.

Capture information at the three levels of delay

- Traditional practices
- Knowledge of danger signs
- Terrain
- Road network
- Equitable distribution of health facilities
- Quality of care at health facilities

Assess Health status on arrival at each health facility within the referral chain (3rd delay)

RESPS	
NEURO	
BP	
PULSE	
URINE	
TEMP	
TOTAL	

Eye opening	
Verbal Response	
Motor Response	
TOTAL	

Score	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
Resp rate			≤8		9-14	15-20	21-29	≥30
Neurology Patient responds to OR GCS		≤8	9-13	14	15			
Systolic BP	<80	81-90	91-100	101-110	111-199		>200	
Pulse (BPM)			<40	41-50	51-100	101-110	111-130	>131
Urine Output		<10 ml/hr	<30 ml/hr					
Temp			<35.0	35.1-36	36.1-38	38.1-38.5	≥38.6	

Access to health centre



	Frequency	Percent
Foot	75	10.7
Motorcycle	282	40.1
Motor Vehicle	283	40.2
Bicycle/Wheel barrow	1	.1
ETS/CDC	6	.8
/Ambulance/Mobile Ambulance	57	8.1
Total	704	100.0

Access to referral facility



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	Frequency	Per cent
Foot	20	2.8
Motorcycle	220	31.3
Motor vehicle	383	54.4
Emergency Transport Scheme	7	1
Mobile Ambulance/Ambulance	74	10.5
TOTAL	704	100

Reasons for Referral

	Frequency	Per cent
Bleeding(Ante-Partum Haemorrhage/ Post-Partum Haemorrhage)	121	17.2
Prolonged Labour	57	8.1
MIP/Sepsis	9	1.3
Anaemia	54	7.7
Eclampsia	15	2.1
Hypertension/CCF	13	1.8
None stated	377	53.6
Abdominal Pain	39	5.5
Abortion/Stillbirth/Premature	19	2.6
Total	704	100.0

Findings



- Different answers were found from using a different health condition assessment.
- However, the study found a significant relationship found between how long women took to arrive at the referral facility and their respiration, blood pressure and urine vital signs.
- There was also a significant relationship between the means of transport to the referral facility and their vital signs for respiration, neurological state, pulse, urine and temperature.
- Finally, there was a significant relationship between the means of transport to the initial health centre and their vital signs for neurological condition, blood pressure, pulse, urine and temperature.