

Neonatal deaths in 4 hospitals for the fetal heart rate by mothers' program

Comments on Martha Tubman Memorial Hospital (MTMH) neonatal deaths

All 5 deaths (4 neonatal and 1 post neonatal) had FHR abnormalities prior to death. Major issue with lack of emergency drugs, surgical supplies, and blood transfusion in one case (11 abnormal FHRs before CS). The baby was thought to be dead at the time of CS but was temporarily resuscitated.

3 of 5 had Apgar scores at 5 minutes < 4.

3 VD, 1 CS and 1 vacuum.

1 who died at age 31 days stayed for a long time at home before coming to hospital.

1 had seizures (HIE)

Comments on Sinje CEmOC neonatal deaths

None of the 3 neonatal deaths had FHR changes.

All 3 early neonatal deaths were related to congenital malaria; a major untreated problem in Grand Capemount county.

One mother was only 15 years of age, and her baby was preterm and low birth weight (1.6Kg).

All 3 were born by VD.

Only 1 of 3 received resuscitation which was for 30 minutes. Misoprostol had been given to induce for post-dates.

Comments on Tellewoyan Hospital neonatal deaths

Two out of 4 showed FHR changes and both mothers were treated with additional inspired oxygen.

1 was a conjoined twin.

1 was born preterm without FHR changes at 27 weeks' gestation and birth weight 1.3Kg.

3 were born by VD and 1 by CS.

Comments on CB Dunbar Hospital neonatal deaths

14 of 19 neonatal deaths had prior FHR abnormalities. Two had [HIE](#), 2 [VSBA](#) and 15 [SBA](#).

18 deaths aged < 7 days PLUS 1 death aged 9 days.

In one, major delay in CS (2.5 hours) due to lack of drugs and supplies needed.

In 2 poor maternal expulsive efforts

4 were born by CS; 3 by vacuum; 12 by VD.

In one cord prolapse (also a twin birth) and one with a triple cord entanglement.

Summary on 30 neonatal deaths and one death at 31 days from all 4 hospitals

30 patients (+1 from MTMH who died aged 31 days with severe BA).

5 had normal FHRs and 26 abnormal FHR changes identified during monitoring in labour.

6 were LBW/preterm (one 27 and one 34 weeks' gestation).

Three were born by vacuum deliveries (need more vacuum or forceps extractions when fully dilated where there is delay in 2nd stage and FHR abnormal).

Three suffered HIE with seizures, 5 very severe BA (VSBA) 16 +1 severe BA (SBA), 1 moderate BA (BA), 3 mild BA including one conjoined twin. *Two did not have birth asphyxia but died of neonatal sepsis.*

Two (1 with obstructed labour and fetal distress from MTMH and 1 with a delayed CS by 2.5 hours with fetal distress at CBD) needed urgent CS. These delays resulted from of a 4-year Government “stock-out” of essential emergency drugs and materials; including blood for transfusion in the case from MTMH. One developed VSBA and one developed SBA and both died.