



SAVING MOTHERS LIVES

Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Death in Kenya

KEY FINDINGS

Excerpt from: Saving Mothers Lives 2017, First Confidential Report into Maternal Deaths in Kenya



Fifty-one percent (484) of the 945 maternal deaths reported in the District Health Information System (DHIS) for the year 2014 were assessed.



The **median age** of women who died was **27 years**. The youngest who died was 14 years while the oldest was 47 years.



8.9% of the women who died were **below 20 years**.



42.4% that died were having their **first or second pregnancy**



Only 5 in 10 had **antenatal care**.



Only 1 in 5 who attended ANC had **at least 4 ANC visits**.



5 out of 10 were **intrapartum and postpartum deaths**.



1 out of 10 women died **undelivered**.



3 out of 10 mothers who died had **stillbirths**.



2 out of 5 maternal deaths were due to **obstetric haemorrhage**.



1 out of 5 maternal deaths were due to **non-obstetric complications mainly HIV/AIDS and anaemia**.

Quality of Care



Sub-standard care was identified in **9 out of 10 maternal deaths**.



One or more associated factors related to health worker, administration, patient and community factors were identified in majority (89.3%) of maternal deaths.



Delay in starting treatment (33%), inadequate clinical skills (28%), and inadequate monitoring (27%) were the most frequently identified health workforce-related factors.



Obstetricians were involved in the **emergency care** of only **1 in 10 women who died**.



91% of women who died of obstetric haemorrhage received sub-optimal care, where different management would have resulted in a different outcome.



Half (50%) of all maternal deaths were among women who had been referred from another facility, mostly from level 4 to level 5 or 6 health facilities.



Over 7 out of 10 deaths occurred out of office hours (between 5pm and 8am on weekdays, weekends and public holidays).



Poor record keeping/documentation was noted in most cases of maternal deaths assessed.