



Real-Time Neonatal and mortality audits

Project Information

- ◆ Department: Public Health Program
- ◆ Unit: Disease Health Protection and Promotion

OBJECTIVES

The Neonatal and stillbirth audit aimed to improve the quality of newborn care in Zaatari and Azraq refugee camps. Audits were conducted by EMPHNET as an independent organization to promote greater acceptance of the practice and a more collaborative review of findings. Thus, created an enabling environment to conduct auditing.

REGIONS OF WORK

This project was implemented Zaatari and Azraq Syrian refugee camps in Jordan.

BENEFICIARIES

Pregnant women and newborns from Syrian refugees' resident in Zaatari and Azraq camps in Jordan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

EMPHNET utilized its experience and conducted audits in a no-blame, interdisciplinary approach and provides data for decision making to improve the care provided to all mothers and babies. EMPHNET certified and experienced technical staff performed these audits in both camps, reviewed, and updated procedures and instruments` database based on UNHCR guidelines. EMPHNET built an accountable reporting system annually and after each death notification, in addition to working on building the public health capacities through several trainings and workshops at both camps.

EMPHNET was also able to identify common risk factors and characteristics of preterm deliveries with the consequences of neonatal deaths and stillbirths, along with other contributing family-related factors. This provided a complete neonatal death and stillbirth classified database and programmatic recommendations to address gaps and implications of the practice, which positively impacted the health care service delivery leading ultimately to contribute to preventing future newborn deaths.

PROJECT PHASES

The neonatal and stillbirth mortality audit project involves three main phases and procedures to take place in both camps

- I- Apply the established and validated methodology in all Neonatal and Stillbirths Deaths Audits
- II- Respond within 24 hours for neonatal death stillbirth notifications from the camps health providers and those responsible of reporting mortalities and conduct authorized reviews with families, especially women
- III- Electronically report to UNHCR cases within 72 of death notification audit report with analyzing of contributing risk factors to newborn deaths and still birth. As well as technical and annual reporting with full situation analysis, risk factors, and programmatic and sustainable recommendations to preformed activities.

Project Start and End Date	06/22/2020 - 12/31/2020
Partner Organizations	United Nation Higher Council for Refugees (UNHCR) Bluemont International Inc./ Jordan, UNHCR
Funded by	Bluemont International Inc.



Currently . . .

The need to build up neonatal mortality review framework in Zaatari camp in Jordan surfaced in 2013 to respond to the elevated number of neonatal deaths and stillbirths' rates observed during the unfolding humanitarian situation. The lack of feedback and misperceptions of the aim of the process, receptiveness to feedback and fear of repercussions by service providers entailed the need to promote greater acceptance of the practice and a system for more collaborative review of findings. The system that was established in Zaateri and Azraq camp and audits in both camps have shown strong connection between neonatal deaths and early/ late age pregnancy, lack of awareness in families of the importance of birth spacing between pregnancies, and the limited number and insufficient quality of antenatal visits to health care centers in the camps or the referral hospitals.

What is next . . .

The project is a continuation to EMPHNET efforts that started in 2017, working as independent organization in Jordan to conduct audits of neonatal death and still birth and promote a clear common ground for a collaborative review of findings and auditing services. This effort support improving the quality of the newborn care in Zaatari and Azraq refugee camps. In specific, this is through identifying the avoidable factors contributing to the neonatal deaths and stillbirths shared with stakeholders for needed actions to address these factors and bridge any gaps in the health services. Thus, consideration would be given to the need for improving quality of health care delivery to women and babies during pregnancy and delivery, prevention and protection for women who might be exposed to domestic violence and facilitate women access to psycho-social support from within the camps and expand their knowledge on the importance of antenatal care and family planning.

By the Numbers

3-7

Days newborns have the highest rate mortalities.

72

Hours after death notification, an electronic report is submitted to UNHCR database system

11/1000

Neonatal Mortality (per 1000 live births) in Jordan

EMPHNET Information: Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) works at achieving its mission by responding to public health needs with deliberate efforts that allow for health promotion and disease prevention.

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