



Maternal Health : Key Issues

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For too many women across the globe, motherhood is far from being a fulfilling experience. It is associated with suffering, ill health and even death due to issues related to maternal health.

When a mother dies, children lose their primary caregiver, communities are denied her paid and unpaid labour and countries forego her contributions to economic and social development.



UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5

Target 5 A. Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio. (Reduce urban – rural/ developing – developed nations' gap)

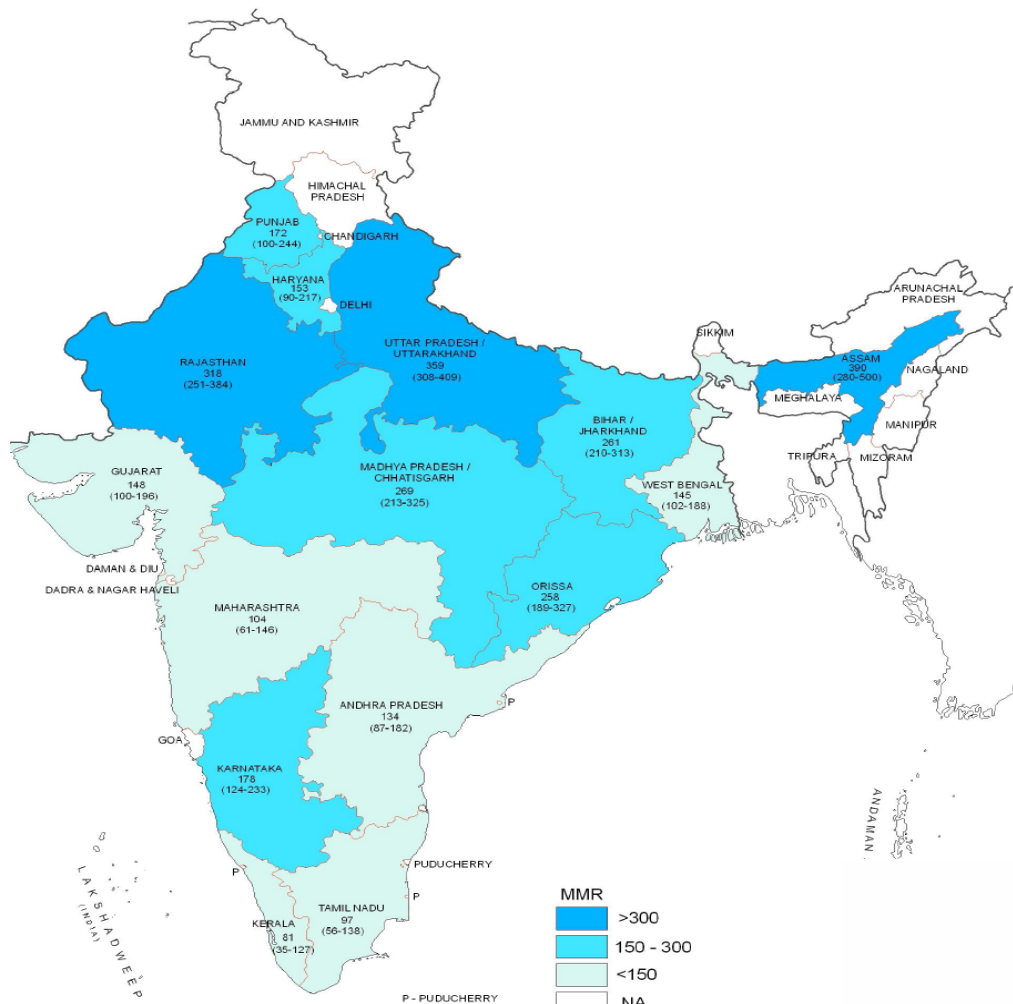
MMR = No. of deaths/100000 live births.

Target 5B Achieve universal access to reproductive health (Antinatal care, family planning)



Long way to go to reach the goal by 2015 (MMR = 109) Highest number of maternal deaths globally (56000/yr)

**MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO (MMR) ALONG WITH 95%
CONFIDENCE INTERVAL, INDIA AND STATES, 2007-2009**



June, 2011

**SPECIAL BULLETIN ON
MATERNAL MORTALITY IN INDIA 2007-09**

SAMPLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

OFFICE OF REGISTRAR GENERAL, INDIA

VITAL STATISTICS DIVISION, WEST BLOCK 1, WING 1, 2ND FLOOR, R. K. PURAM, NEW DELHI-110 066

Reduction in MMR from 301 (2001-03) to 212 (2007-09)

Press information bureau, gov. of India August 2013



In spite of economic progress
basic right to safe childbirth is denied.

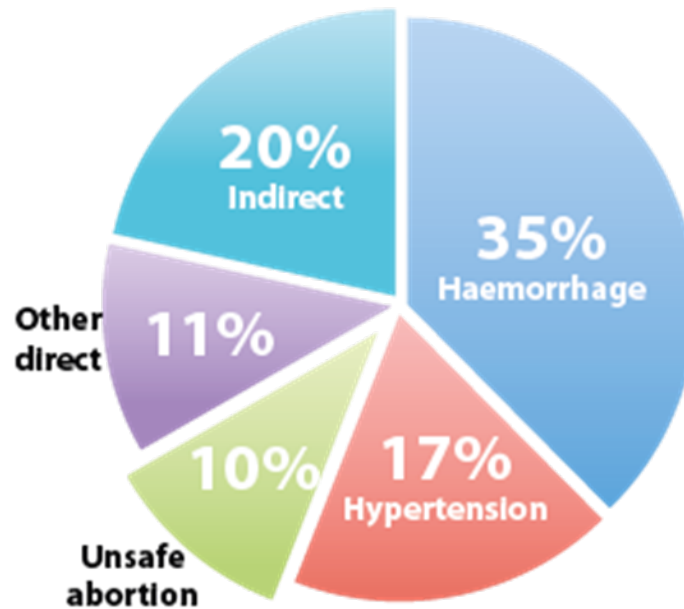
One woman dies during child birth **every eight minutes**. (19% of global maternal deaths)

India ranked 142 out of 176 countries.

("State of World's mothers report" by Save the Children, May 2013).

Ranking based on -- maternal health, children's well-being, educational status, economic and political status of women.

Causes of Maternal Death in India



<http://childsurvival-india.org/index.php/project/>

I. Heavy bleeding (hemorrhage)

42% of pregnant women worldwide have anemia → heavy bleeding during childbirth; sepsis → death Ref : WHO review (Survey 1993 to 2005)

II. Eclampsia (high blood pressure)

Pre-eclampsia :hypertensive disorder with high protein levels in the urine (proteinuria) during pregnancy.

Women bearing their first child. Delayed diagnosis can fatally affect maternal health.

(Ref : [Times of India, Dec 2011](#))

For every women dying during child birth many more suffer

Long-lasting and debilitating illnesses.

- 36% women **malnourished**
(body-mass index < 18.5 kg/m²)
 - Life cycle issue
 - short stature
 - affecting pregnancy and lactation.
- Mineral / Vitamin deficiencies :major issues.
 - Iron deficiency most common ~ 55 percent are **anemic**
 - Vitamin A deficiency affecting fetus health, vision
 - Zinc deficiency – prolonged labour, pre – term delivery
 - Iodine deficiency – affects mental, motor development of fetus,
Risk of miscarriage.



(Ref : Lancet online 2008)

The Indian Challenge : Access to sufficient health-care

General Issues :

- Vast country, Difficult and inaccessible geographies.
- Diversity
- Problems of supplies (drugs, medicines), malfunctioning of equipment,
- Inadequate human resources.
- **Socio – cultural determinants**
 - Exclusion (Social gap for health status and health service)
 - Early age of marriage (48% women from poor population marry before 18)
 - Repeated childbearing. (gender issues)

70% of Maternal deaths can be prevented. Health can be restored.



(Source:
<http://blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtim/e/2013/07/11/educating-indias-teenage-mothers/>)

Ref : 1. Telegraph India, 2. R.K. Nayar In : World conference on social determinants of health, WHO, 2011,

Inclusive and equitable innovations needed along with awareness and sensitization..

- Some Central/state government measures are already in place.
 - Boat clinics – Assam and govt with a private organization.
(Ref: [IndiaGovernance](#))
 - Janani Express Ambulance service

(Ref: Ministry of health and family welfare, Govt of India, Website)



(Source:

<http://www.ndtv.com/news/images/assam-boat-clinic-295.jpg>)

Technologies desirable for such majors and more.

All stakeholders, experts, researchers, authorities concerned – public and private need to work together.

Overview: Child health issues in India



Pradnya Aradhye
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UN Millennium developmental goal no: 4: Reduce child mortality



Target 4 A: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate:

- Under five mortality rate
- Infant mortality rate
- Proportion of children immunized for measles



Facts: Under five (under 5 years of age) mortality rate

- The number of children in developing countries who died before they reached the age of five in 1990 was 100 per 1,000 live births. The number of children in India who died before they reached the age of five in 2011 was [61 deaths per 1,000 live births.](#)
- The target for the number of children in India who die before they reached the age of five years needs to be [39 per 1,000 live births.](#)



Infant (under 11 months old) mortality rate

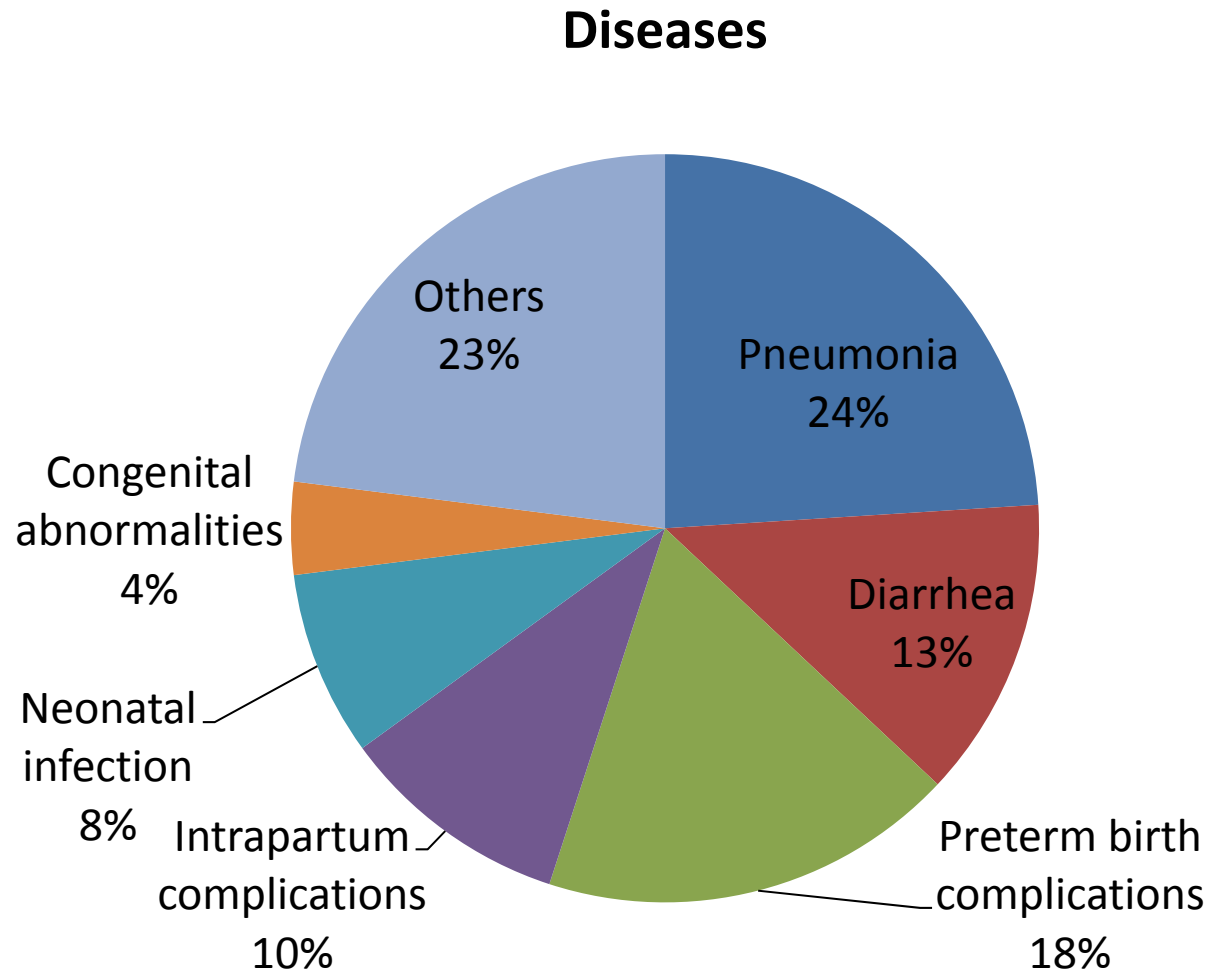
- The number of children in India who died before they reached the age of 11 months in 2010 was [47 per 1,000 live births.](#)
- The target for the number of infants in India who die before they reached the age of 11 months needs to be [26 per 1,000 live births.](#)



Proportion of children immunized against measles

- The percentage of children immunized against measles increased from 42.2% 1992-93 to 72.4% in 2009.
- The target for the number of children who get immunized for measles by 2015 is 100%.

Causes of child death in India in 2010



Malnutrition is one of the underlying cause of deaths associated with infectious diseases.

Few facts:

- According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3) carried out in 2005-06, child malnutrition rates in India are disproportionately high.
- More than 6,000 Indian children below the age of five die every day due to malnourishment or lack of basic micronutrients such as vitamin A, iron, iodine, zinc or folic acid.





Determinants of child survival in India

- Maternal and demographic factors
 - Education of mother
 - Age of the mother
 - Spacing between two children
 - Maternal nutrition status
 - Deliveries attended by medical professionals
- Social and economic factors
 - Economic status of the family
 - Sex of the child
- Environmental factors
 - Access to safe drinking water



Measures and schemes by Govt towards improving child health

- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)
- Integrated Management of Neonatal & Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI)
- Facility Based Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (F- IMNCI)
- Home Based New Born Care (HBNC)
- Navjat Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (NSSK)



Thank You