

# 36<sup>TH</sup> CARDIOVASCULAR NURSING & NURSE PRACTITIONERS MEETING

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## **The effects of the mentorship module on the knowledge, perceptions, and willingness of community midwives in Sindh, Pakistan: A pilot study**

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The aim of the present ground breaking study was to develop and test a mentorship module to determine its feasibility for educating community midwives about mentoring. Furthermore, the study measured the impact of the module on the community midwives' knowledge, perceptions, and willingness to mentor. This study used a quasi-experimental pre and post design. The participants were community midwives, recruited from different districts of Sindh. The study adopted a two-phased approach to achieve the objectives. First, the mentorship module was developed with the help of experts and after an in-depth study of the related literature. Later, the module was tested, to determine the effectiveness of the education on community midwives' knowledge, perceptions, and willingness to mentor. At the time of baseline data collection the needs of community midwives were assessed. The need gaps were addressed through a two day workshop. Community midwives' knowledge, perceptions, and willingness were reassessed after the workshop. The telephonic follow-up after three months was also done to evaluate whether the community midwives had taken the initiative to work as mentors. The analysis concluded that the mentorship module was effective in improving the knowledge and willingness of community midwives to mentor. The perceptions regarding the cost of mentoring had also improved; however, no significant difference was found with respect to the perceptions regarding the benefits of mentoring. After three months of workshop, 72% community midwives reported that they initiated work as a mentor. In conclusion, this two days' mentorship training was found to be effective in improving the knowledge, perceptions, and willingness of community midwives to mentor. Hence, to sustain the delivery of the mentorship module and to run a successful mentorship program for community midwives, administrative support is an important requirement. A larger study in different areas of Pakistan is also recommended using similar schemata

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