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## Factors associated with perinatal mortality among public health deliveries in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: an unmatched case control study

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Perinatal mortality is the sum of still birth and early neonatal death i.e. death of live newborn before the age of 7 completed days. Perinatal mortality accounts three-fourth of the deaths of the neonatal period and is one of the major challenges for under-five mortality. This study was conducted to understand the common and avoidable factors that affect perinatal mortality in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. An unmatched case control study design using secondary data as a source of information was conducted. Cases were still births or early neonatal deaths and controls were live births and did not die before the age of 7 days. Epi-Info version 7.0 and SPSS Version 21 were used for data entry and analysis. A total of 1113 (376 cases and 737 controls) maternal charts were reviewed. The mean age of the mothers for cases and controls were  $26.47 \pm 4.87$  and  $26.95 \pm 4.68$  respectively. 597 (53.6%) mothers delivered for the first time. Factors that are significantly associated with increased risk of perinatal mortality were birth interval less than 2 years, preterm delivery, anemia, congenital anomaly, previous history of early neonatal death and low birth weight. Use of partograph was also associated with decreased risk of perinatal mortality. From factors that are associated with perinatal mortality, some of them can be prevented with early investigation of pregnant mothers on their antenatal care follow. Appropriate labor follow-up and monitoring with regular use of partograph, immediate newborn care and interventions to delay birth interval also minimize perinatal mortality.