

9th International Conference on Gynecology and Obstetrics

June 19-20, 2023 | Webinar

Volume : 13

Prevalence of early postnatal care services usage and associated factors among postnatal women of Wolkite town, Gurage zone, Southern Ethiopia: a community-based cross-sectional study

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Early postnatal care service usage in developing countries is one of the healthcare service usage problems among postnatal women; which is related to extensive maternal and neonatal complications and mortality. Identification of the prevalence of early postnatal care services usage and associated factors among postnatal women is imperative to develop intervention measures to mitigate their complications and public health impact, which is not well known in Ethiopia, particularly in the selected study area. Thus, this study aimed to assess the prevalence of early postnatal care services usage and associated factors among postnatal women of Wolkite town, southeast Ethiopia. A community-based cross-sectional study design was conducted among 301 postnatal women from 15 May to 15 June 2021. Data were collected using a pretested structured questionnaire. The collected data were cleaned and entered in Epi-Data V.3.1 and then exported to SPSS V.23 for analysis. Finally, a multivariate logistic regression model was fitted to identify the factors associated with early postnatal care services usage. The p value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant. The finding showed that the prevalence of early postnatal care services usage was 23.3% (95% CI 18.9% to 27.9%). Wanted pregnancy (adjusted OR (AOR) =4.17, 95% CI 1.93 to 9.03), had over four histories of pregnancy (Gravida > 4) (AOR=2.90, 95% CI 1.18 to 7.11) and had spontaneous vertex delivery (AOR=2.18, 95% CI 1.07 to 9.39) were statistically significant factors of early postnatal care service usage. This study has shown that the prevalence of early postnatal care services usage was slightly low when compared with other studies. Thus, community based health promotion should be an important recommendation to increase early postnatal care service usage among postnatal mothers to improve the level of awareness of early postnatal check-up schedules; done by healthcare providers.

Biography

Yirgalem Yosef has his expertise in maternal health care services and passion in improving the health and wellbeing. He has BSc in Midwifery and MSc in Maternity health nursing. He is instructor, research and research adviser in department of midwifery, school of medicine and health Science College, Wolkite University, Ethiopia.

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Abstract received : June 12, 2023 | Abstract accepted : June 14, 2023 | Abstract published : 20-07-2023