**Editorial** 

### Causes and Prevention of Maternal Mortality Rate

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### DESCRIPTION

Approximately 500,000 women die each year from pregnancyrelated causes. Most of these deaths are preventable. At the 2000 Millennium Summit, countries promised to reduce maternal mortality by three-quarters by 2015. This commitment derives from the Millennium Summit's Commitment which play a decisive role in international development efforts. Goal 5 is an effort to improve the health of pregnant women. Maternal mortality reduction is the outcome of choice to assess progress towards this. However, this issue has never been so prominent in the international development agenda. Despite many years of international efforts to reduce maternal mortality, progress has been disappointing. This briefing shows how human rights, especially the highest achievable rights to health ("rights to health"), can provide new impetus and framework. Strategies to reduce maternal mortality in recent years, there have been growing recognition that the decline in maternal mortality is not only a development issue, but also a human rights issue. Avoidable maternal mortality occurs when the rights of women without health insurance, equality, and discrimination are not fulfilled. Avoidable maternal mortality often represents a violation of a woman's right to life. Pregnant women's health is closely linked to their right to the highest achievable level of health. This basic human right is recognised by the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights and other international human rights treaties. Rights to health include rights to goods and services, including sexual and reproductive health care and information. It requires action to break down the political, economic, social, and cultural barriers women face in accessing interventions that can prevent maternal death. It requires the involvement of stakeholders in the development of policies and services. And it requires accountability for maternal deaths. In short, promoting and protecting the right to health requires action that leads to a significant and sustained reduction in maternal mortality.

# SUSTAINABLE METHODS OF MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE

## Benefits of a human rights based approach to maternal mortality

Policies informed by human rights, including rights to health, are likely to be more effective, equitable, inclusive, nondiscriminatory, and participatory. In the context of maternal mortality policy, these characteristics help empower women. Due to its legal basis, widespread acceptance by the international community, and the detailed framework of relevant norms and obligations, the right to health and other relevant human rights are the legitimacy and legality of strategies and programmes to prevent maternal death. The widespread acceptance of human rights provides a useful platform for consensus building among various stakeholders, such as governments, international organizations, donors, and civil society, in developing and implementing policies. What Does It Imply? Under international law, the state has the main responsibility for human rights, but human rights can be integrated into the policies and programmes of various parties. Given the benefits of a human rights-based approach, human rights should change the work of other stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, international organizations, the private sector, and civil society.

### Causes and prevention of maternal mortality

About 80% of maternal deaths worldwide are due to obstetric complications. Mainly bleeding, sepsis, unsafe abortion, pre-eclampsia, and long-term or delivery disorders. Unsafe abortion complications account for 13% of maternal deaths worldwide and 19% of maternal deaths in South America. Almost all maternal deaths are preventable. An estimated 74% of maternal mortality could be avoided if all women had access to pregnancy and childbirth complications, particularly interventions to prevent or treat emergency obstetric care. Poverty, gender and other inequality, lack of information, weak healthcare systems, lack of political commitment, and cultural barriers deny women

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access to technical services and information that can often prevent maternal mortality and morbidity. There are other obstacles that must be overcome in order to Over the last two decades, many international efforts and initiatives have worked to reduce maternal mortality. While many countries have made progress in reducing maternal mortality, many of the countries with the highest maternal mortality burden have stagnated or reversed progress. Most parts of the world are not on track to meet the MDG's goal of reducing maternal mortality.

#### Legal protections provided by the right to health

In recent years, the conceptual understanding of maternal mortality as a human rights issue has deepened. Maternal mortality and morbidity are associated with many human rights, especially the highest achievable level of health. The highest

achievable rights to health are legally protected by international human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). It is also recognised not only in regional treaties but also in the national constitutions and laws of many countries around the world. International treaties include state qualifications and corresponding obligations that are of great importance in the context of reducing maternal mortality. Maternal mortality will decrease if these rights and obligations are met. The characteristics of the right to health are most fully shown in the general comments. This is an authoritative interpretation of the provisions of the Convention, adopted by the body responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Convention.