Pregnant Women's Knowledge, Perception and Utilization of Primary Health Centres in Ado Local Government Area, Ekiti State.

Omolara Ibiyemi ASONIBARE

LCU/PG/006617

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Certification

This is to certify that **Omolara Ibiyemi Asonibare** with matriculation number **LCU/PG/006617** carried out this research work titled "**Pregnant Women's Knowledge, Perception and Utilization of Primary Health Centres in Ado Local Government Area of Ekiti State** " in the Department of Nursing Science, Faculty of Basic Medical and Health Science, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo state, for the award of Master Degree of Nursing Science (MSc) in Community/Public Health Nursing and that this has not been previously submitted.

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Mrs. Nwakaku. Bibian Kuforiji Date (Supervisor)

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Mrs. Adekemi O. Akinpelu Date

(Head of the Department)

Dedication

This research work is dedicated to the Almighty God, who made it possible for me despite all odds.

Acknowledgement

First and foremost, my utmost gratitude goes to the Almighty God for the privilege given to me for this course of study.

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“Even though the above-mentioned institutions and persons have assisted in the process of this research work, I alone stand responsible for the errors, if any, found in the work”.

Abstract

Facility delivery, defined as childbirth attended by skilled health workers within a recognized health institution, is universally acknowledged as one of the most effective interventions for preventing maternal and neonatal deaths. Despite its importance there are many factors influencing its utilisation. The overall purpose of this study was to assess the Pregnant Women' knowledge, Perception, and Utilization of Primary Health Centers in Ado LGA, Ekiti State, Nigeria. The research was guided by Health Belief Model and Andersen's Behavioral Model of Health Service Utilization. Descriptive survey design was adopted; data were collected using a structured, validated questionnaire. Data were analyzed using frequency counts, percentages, means, standard deviations, Chi-square tests at a 0.05 level of significance with Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 26. Findings revealed that respondents demonstrated high knowledge about benefits of facility delivery (overall mean = 2.77, SD = 0.57). A majority (97.4%) affirmed that delivering in a health facility reduces maternal complications, while 89.6% recognized the dangers of home delivery. Respondents showed very positive perception toward institutional delivery, with mean scores ranging from 4.01 to 4.71. However, certain barriers persisted, over half of the women (54.5%) reported experiencing financial, transportation problems, as obstacles to using health facilities. Chi-square analyses indicated that while awareness and perception were generally high, there was no statistically significant relationship between educational level and the experience of barriers ($\chi^2 = 8.389$, $p = 0.754$) or between perception of facility delivery and reported challenges ($\chi^2 = 12.247$, $p = 0.426$). In conclusion, the study established that pregnant women in Ado LGA possess adequate knowledge and favorable attitudes toward facility delivery, but challenges such as cost, distance, still limit utilization. It is recommended that government, health authorities intensify community health education, subsidize delivery costs, improve access to quality maternity.

Keywords: Knowledge, Perception, Facility delivery, Utilization

Word Count: 295

Table of Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

List of Acronyms

Abbreviation	Meaning
RMNCH:	Reproductive Maternal Newborn and Child Health
MDGs:	Millenium Development Goals
WHO :	World Health Organization
SDGs :	Sustainable Development Goals
MMR :	Maternal Mortality Rate
NDHS :	Nigeria Demographic Health Survey
HBM :	Health Belief Model
ANC :	Ante Natal Clinic
CHEWs:	Community Health Extension Workers
TBAs:	Traditional Birth Attendants
EMOc :	Emergency Obstetric Care
mHealth:	Mobile Health
UNFPA:	United Nations Population Fund
MSS:	Midwives Service Scheme
CCT:	Conditional Cash Transfer
NHIS:	National Health Insurance Scheme
BMHSU:	Behavioral Model of Health Services Use

DHS: Demographic Health Survey