

**EVIDENCE- BASED OBSTETRICS SERVICES AT AMANA MATERNITY AND LABOUR WARD IN DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA. AN OBSERVATIONAL STUDY TO EXPLORE CLINICAL PRACTICE, WOMEN'S PREFERENCES AND THE HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDERS' VIEWS.**

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**ABSTRACT**

Background In most of the Sub-Saharan countries, many health workers do not have easy access to the most recent and reliable information on effective reproductive health care, despite evidence-based obstetric care being widely promoted in developing countries. In Tanzania, efforts have been done to introduce evidence based reproductive health care. However, the success of its implementation is not known. Objectives In this study I documented current obstetric practices rates, against evidence based information, and explored the barriers and opportunities to implementing these procedures from the provider's perspectives. Women's preferences and their satisfaction with care they received were also documented. Methods The Cochrane Library was used to identify few common and relevant childbirth practices. These were grouped as lives saving, quality childbirth and avoid as routine practices. Using the above selected childbirth practices, an observational study was done using quantitative and qualitative methods. Practice rates were determined by exit interviews with a consecutive sample of postnatal women. Health providers (midwives' and doctors') views were explored using in-depth semi-structured interviews. Women's opinions and preferences were also documented using in depth semi-structured interviews. The study site was at Amana Hospital in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.