Welcome to the 2nd issue of our newsletter

In this issue we include updates from the workshops, technical guidelines, and some recent publications and news. Our goal is to keep you informed on Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health Care in Ethiopia, in Africa and beyond.

Enjoy reading!

Ethiopia one step ahead of the Ebola Virus

A half-day orientation on Ebola virus disease outbreak, preparedness and response was organized by the Federal Ministry of Health in Addis Ababa.

The orientation aimed to orient health workers on the Ebola virus disease surveillance (case detection and reporting), risk factors, clinical signs and symptoms and precautions to be taken for infection prevention. More than 200 health workers drawn from government and private hospitals, NGOs, health centers, health bureaus and sub-cities in Addis Ababa and Ethiopian Airlines Clinic attended the orientation. (Source-Federal Ministry of Health Ethiopia)

The Public Health Institute also has announced that Ethiopia has set up a National Committee to put in place a plan to prevent and contain any possible outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus, which is currently spreading in West Africa. To learn more click here
World Breastfeeding Week  August 1-7,2014

World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated every year from 1 to 7 August in more than 170 countries to encourage breastfeeding and improve the health of babies around the world.

It commemorates the Innocenti Declaration signed in August 1990 by government policymakers, WHO, UNICEF and other organizations to protect, promote and support breastfeeding .To read more click here.

Pregnant women given inappropriate treatment  for malaria

Not all pregnant women with symptoms of malaria seek care from their formal healthcare system and if they do seek care, they may be given inappropriate treatment because healthcare providers often fail to adhere to the standard (World Health Organization) diagnostic and treatment guidelines, according to a new study. To read more click here.

Gloves associated with fewer infections in preterm babies

Extremely premature babies in a neonatal intensive care unit had fewer infections when medical staff wore gloves after washing their hands compared with hand washing alone. Even after hand washing, medical staff can still have microorganisms on their hands. This can be dangerous for extremely preterm newborns because of their immature immune systems and underdeveloped skin and mucosal barriers. To read the full article click here.

More articles....

If you want to read more articles, you can access them from our MNCH Dropbox. The articles cover a wide range of MNCH topics from a variety of sources. For more information on how to access the approximately 200 articles in Dropbox, email us at:

ET-MNCH@ualberta.ca

SKILLED HEALTH WORKERS LEAD TO A 54% REDUCTION IN MORTALITY AT BIRTH.
Maternal singing benefits preterm infants, mothers

A mother who sings to her preterm infant while providing 'kangaroo care,' or holding with direct skin-to-skin contact, may see improvements in both her child's and her own health. The finding comes from a study of 86 mother-infant pairs in a neonatal intensive care unit. To read more click here.

WHO midwifery info graphic – 2014

Midwives are the unsung heroes of maternal and newborn health. They can prevent about two thirds of deaths among women and newborns. And midwives deliver much more than babies: They are the connective tissue for communities, helping women and girls care for their health, from family planning all the way through the postpartum period. This info graphic helps demonstrate midwifery care through a full course of care. To read more click here.

Ethiopia’s game-changing abortion law

After decades battling high maternal death rates at least a third of which were due to botched abortions – Ethiopia took a stand: it prioritized newborn and maternal health, and in 2005 it relaxed its abortion law in an effort to save women’s lives. See more http://www.irinnews.org/report/100463/ethiopia-s-game-changing-abortion-law
Stress during pregnancy pass down through generations

To better understand problems during pregnancies today, we should look to the experiences of our ancestors, research suggests. Scientists investigating pregnancies in four generations of rats show that inherited epigenetic effects of stress could affect pregnancies for generations. Read more here.

Maternal outcomes of hypertensive disorders in pregnancy

A cross-sectional study was conducted between January 1 and February 28, 2013. Medical records were also reviewed to identify any complications of hypertensive disorders. To read more click here.

Kangaroo Mother Care save millions of lives

Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) is one of the most promising ways to save preterm and low birth weight babies in high- and low-income settings alike. This form of care, initiated in hospital, involves teaching mothers and other caregivers how to keep newborns warm through continuous, 24 hours per day, skin-to-skin contact on the mother’s chest. Research suggests that up to half a million newborns could be saved each year if properly conducted KMC was practiced everywhere. To learn more click here.
Do you want to be a member of Ethiopian Midwives Association?
For details please click here.

WHO recommendations for Prevention and treatment of pre-eclampsia and eclampsia
Optimizing health care to prevent and treat women with hypertensive disorders is a necessary step towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. WHO has developed the present evidence-based recommendations with a view to promoting the best possible clinical practices for the management of pre-eclampsia and eclampsia.

Guideline: Daily iron and folic acid supplementation in pregnant women
This guideline provides global, evidence-informed recommendations on daily iron and folic acid supplementation in pregnant women as a public health intervention for the purpose of improving pregnancy outcomes and reducing maternal anaemia in pregnancy.

Important link

Global Health eLearning Center

The Global Health eLearning Center offers a menu of online courses that learners can use to expand their knowledge in key public health areas, and to access important up-to-date technical information should midwives know. To learn more click here

Senior Midwife Tutor Story Corner—Tell us what's in yours!

Do you have an idea or a success story to share? Maybe you’ve heard of an event that we should all support. Did you just find a solution you’d like to suggest to others? Please send us your news, events and postings for future editions. There are so many interesting experiences to share and opportunities to learn in our newsletter.

Please submit your stories directly to Meseret Desta Haileyesus.

About this Newsletter

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