Welcome to the 17th Issue of Our Newsletter

Welcome to the 17th Edition of our Mother and Child Health Newsletter. We are trying a new format with this edition, one that we hope will be easier to navigate and to share. If you have any comments about this or any other issues, please feel free to contact the Project at etmnch@ualberta.ca or contact our editor Meseret at mesidesta@gmail.com.

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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.

Do you have an idea or a success story to share? Maybe you've heard of an upcoming event? Did you just find a solution you'd like to suggest to others? Send us your ideas so we can learn from each other!

International Maternal Health Day Celebrated

April 11 was the International Day for Maternal Health and Rights, which aims to encourage rights-based, respectful care of women during pregnancy and childbirth. Different organizations are calling on governments, international institutions, and the global community to officially recognize the day and promote and support this issue. Every woman should have the right to dignity, respect, and skilled care during pregnancy and childbirth but not every woman receives it. Evidence is growing about the disrespect and abuse women can face when accessing maternity care in countries at all levels of development. Such abuse includes physical abuse, humiliation and verbal abuse, unconsented clinical care, lack of confidential care, and abandonment or denial of care. Click here to learn more about the International Day for Maternal Health and Rights and the stories of women from around the world. (Source the Lancet)

Addressing Safety Concerns in Labor and Delivery

A healthcare industry-first collaborative blueprint for labor and delivery safety, developed by four leading professional organizations in maternal health, calls for improving communication among clinicians, team leaders, administrators, health care providers, organizations, and patients to ensure fewer risks and better outcomes for mothers and babies.

Read more http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/04/150408153738.htm
Exercise in Pregnancy Benefits Male Babies Most

Male offspring appear to benefit more than females from the positive effects of exercise during pregnancy, an animal study has found. Maternal exercise significantly improved male offspring's insulin and glucose metabolism whereas female offspring showed only modest improvements.

Read the full article here
http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/04/150408145248.htm

Simplified Antibiotics to Treat Neonatal Bacterial Infections

Simplified antibiotic regimens compared with injectable procaine benzylpenicillin plus gentamicin for treatment of neonates and young infants with clinical signs of possible serious bacterial infection when referral is not possible: a randomised, open-label, equivalence trial.

See more
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(14)62284-4/fulltext

Organizing IDM2015? Check out ideas & tips

International day of Midwifery is fast approaching. It holds special significance in this target year of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is time to plan your activity carefully and strategically. Be clear about your objective and what you wish to achieve this IDM. Download here the resource pack and start planning.

What Midwives Need to Know about Postpartum Depression?

Bringing a new baby into the family can be challenging at the best of times, both physically and emotionally. It is natural for new parents to experience mood swings, feeling joyful one minute and depressed the next. These feelings are sometimes known as the “baby blues,” and often go away soon after birth. However, some parents may experience a deep and ongoing depression that lasts much longer. This is called postpartum depression. (source Canada Mental Health Association). To read more about the symptom and management of Postpartum Depression check out http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/enhanced/doi/10.1111/jmwh.12144/

Blood Pressure Measurement Essential During Pregnancy

Accurate blood pressure measurement is fundamental to the early diagnosis of hypertensive disorders in pregnancy, says a review. The diagnosis and management of hypertensive disorders in pregnancy, as well as obstetric hemorrhage, sepsis and safe abortion contribute to more than half of all maternal deaths globally, so the accuracy of BP measurement is vital, the review concludes.

Read more http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/04/150402101529.htm
Autism Risk in ART Children: Multiple Births?

The incidence of diagnosed autism was twice as high for assisted reproductive technology (ART) as non-ART births among the nearly 6 million children in a recent study, born in California from 1997 through 2007. However, much of the association between ART and autism was explained by age and education of the mother as well as adverse perinatal outcomes, especially multiple births.

See more

http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/03/150319165550.htm

Resources

- What are the barriers to accessing maternal health drugs?
- Brand new size at birth standards will improve neonatal health!
- Ending Child Marriage: Progress and Prospects, UNICEF
- UNFPA has developed a toolkit to take on the fight against Female Genital Mutilation
- Why Do Women Deliver at Home? Multilevel Modeling of Ethiopian National Demographic and Health Survey Data
- Misoprostol for postpartum hemorrhage: translating promise into reality
- Burden of obstetric fistula: from measurement to action

Announcement

Abstract submissions for the 2015 Global Maternal Newborn Health Conference are now open! Submit yours and help us spread the word by sharing this link! http://buff.ly/1yjHS31

Picture of the Week
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 Meleret Desta Haileyesus.

About this Newsletter
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