Community-based approaches for neonatal survival: meta-analyses of randomized trial data

Hanson C, Kujala S, Waiswa P, Marchant T, Schellenberg J

WHO theme issue on measuring quality-of-care in the context of sustainable development goal 3.
Background and Methods

Home visits by community health workers to prevent neonatal deaths in developing countries: a systematic review
Siddhartha Gogia & Harshpal Singh Sachdev

Bull WHO 2010

Effect of the Newhints home-visits intervention on neonatal mortality rate and care practices in Ghana: a cluster randomised controlled trial

Lancet 2013

2009: WHO proposes postpartum home visits because meta analyses suggest 45% reduction in neonatal mortality

Exclusion of 3 non-randomized trials

Lancet 2013

Women’s groups practising participatory learning and action to improve maternal and newborn health in low-resource settings: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Lancet 2013

+ Hanson et al. PLoS Med 2015
+ Tripathy et al Lancet GH 2016

7 papers / 8 trials on home-based counselling
8 papers / 9 trials using women’s groups
How does the effect of community-based approaches differ by context?
Can the difference be explained by factors on the pathway of proposed effects? Does the health system or quality of care explain differences?

The density of facilities varied from 17 per 100,000 (Tanzania) to 2 per 100,000 population (Haryana state, India)
What are the implications for quality of care and measuring quality of care?

The context is different and rapidly changing!

Measures reflecting the steps in the implementation pathway are needed, otherwise our interventions might miss the point.

Equity of access

Readiness / structural and operational quality

Effective care

Appropriate intervention for the “right” women, at the “right” time

How can community action support the delivery and measurement of good quality of care?

Complementing  
Supporting ?  
Strengthening ?  
Accountability ?