CAUSES FOR NEWBORN MORTALITY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The world has made substantial progress in reducing child mortality in the past several decades. Nevertheless, the mortality rate in developing countries is still very high and the progress in reducing neonatal mortality is slower than in mortality among children aged 1-59 months.

THE PROBLEM

Children in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia face a higher risk of dying before their fifth birthday.

Under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) by country, 2016

Deaths per 1,000 live births

- >100
- 75 to 100
- 50 to 75
- 25 to 50
- ≤25
- No data

Note: The classification is based on unrounded numbers. This map does not reflect a position by UN IGME agencies on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers.

THE CAUSES

Pneumonia, diarrhoea and malaria remain among the leading causes of death among children under age 5. Global distribution of deaths among children under age 5, by cause, 2016:

- Deaths among children aged 1-59 months (54%)
  - 13% Pneumonia
  - 12% Other
  - 8% Diarrhoea
  - 6% Injury
  - 5% Malaria
  - 3% Pneumonia
- Neonatal deaths (46%)
  - 16% Preterm birth complications
  - 11% Intrapartum-related events incl. birth asphyxia
  - 7% Septicemia or meningitis
  - 5% Congenital

Nearly half of all deaths in children under 5 are attributable to undernutrition.

DISPARITIES IN CHILD SURVIVAL EXIST ACROSS REGIONS AND COUNTRIES

- Sub-Saharan Africa
- World’s high-income countries

Child dies before his or her fifth birthday

- 1:13
- 1:19

Child dies in the first month

- 1:36
- 1:13

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Intrapartum-related events are the second major cause of all neonatal deaths worldwide.

Birth asphyxia and Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy are two of these events. Most under-five deaths are caused by diseases that are readily preventable or treatable with proven, cost-effective interventions.

Birth asphyxia and Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy, are the 2nd leading cause of all neonatal deaths worldwide.

Five studies have shown that whole-body hypothermia treatment can help to reduce the risk of death or disability.

Lack of breathing/Respiratory Distress Syndrome (RDS)

RDS remains one of the most common causes of the 3 million annual newborn deaths in the developing world.

20–38% of deaths in the first 48 hours of life are attributed to respiratory failure.1

The time periods which demonstrated the greatest decline in RDS-specific mortality was linked to the introduction of the Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) ventilator.

NON-INVASIVE THERAPY FOR NEONATAL BREATHING SUPPORT

Helping infants with respiratory distress to breathe easier. Seattle PAP – Bubble CPAP System is a simple and effective non-invasive solution for respiratory support.

These two interventions support you to reduce newborn mortality.

EFFECTIVE THERAPY FOR ASPHYXIA

MiraCare® is an affordable, cooling device to induce therapeutic hypothermia in newborns suffering from birth asphyxia.