**Chapter 1  
  
THE PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING**

This Chapter contains the introduction, background of the study, objectives of the study, scope and delimitation, and significance of the study.  
  
  
**Introduction**

Maternity Clinic, also Lying-in Clinic, is an institution in the Philippines that provide excellent maternal services for pregnant women, newborn infants, and promoting reproductive health for the community. It offers maternal services including prenatal checkup, postnatal checkup, postpartum checkup, delivery or child birth, consultation, Immunization, Newborn Screening, laboratory, and Family Planning. Maternity Clinic’s organization must be mainly composed of Midwives, Obstetrician, Gynecologist, and Pediatrician. Midwives, Obstetrician, and Gynecologist are responsible mostly to the maternal services for pregnant patients, while the Pediatrician is the one who manage the health of the child.   
  
 Maternity Clinics are under the Department of Health (DOH) and must secure necessary permits to operate. Some Midwives are affiliated to some associations like the Midwives Association of the Philippines (IMAP, Inc.). IMAP, Inc. was born on 1947 headed by Atty. Angelina C. Ponce where its main visions are to promote highest standards of midwifery practice, enhance the competence of members, reduce maternal and infant mortality, and sustain collaboration and partnership with related agencies.  
  
**Background of the Study**

The Jewel’s First Maternity Clinic is located at 136 Block 8 Zone 2 Brgy. Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. Its second branch is located at 131, Lot 8, Meralco road Upper Bicutan, Taguig City. It’s a private maternity facility that performs clinical and maternal duties to their patients for almost 8 years and founded by Mrs. Remedios A. Saludes, R.M.  
  
 This maternity clinic is still using the old process of paper system in their recording process. Through the use of papers in recording patient’s information, checkup results, and transaction records, piles of records are stored in their respective filing cabinet. It causes a slow retrieval of files and sometimes misplacement of some records due to overloading of files in the filing cabinet. The process of generating of report, too, takes time because the staff-in-charge needs to retrieve a record and create a report using pen and papers. Clinical supplies are sometimes not monitored and its results to lose of sales. Patients can only know the availability of their desired appointment when they ask the in-charge midwife about the availability.

Pregnant patients undergo prenatal checkups once every month in the first trimester of her pregnancy. The succeeding trimester, 2nd trimester every 2 weeks. The last month will be weekly. First trimester will be one checkup  
 postnatal checkups

The researchers recognized that there is a problem in the storage of the patients’ records and the generating of reports. The proponents believed that a dynamic Maternity Clinic Management System is needed to solve the problem.

The proponents aimed to develop a Maternity Clinic Management System which is expected to automate most of the transactions and clinical services of the clinic giving emphasis to management, retrieval, storage and the creation of reports of the patients’ records. It also gives emphasis between the improvement of communication and connection between the *Jewel’s First Maternity Clinic* and its valued patients.  
  
  
**Objectives of the Study**

The general objective of the study is to develop a Maternity Clinic Management  
System. Specifically aims to:

1. Design the system with the following attributes:  
 a. patient record management system;  
 b. clinic item monitoring system;  
 c. scheduling system;  
 d. online appointment;

e. billing system; and  
 f. report generator for Medical Records, .  
2. Create the system using Sublime Text 2 as text editor, WAMP (Windows, Apache,  
 MySQL, and PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor), HTML (Hypertext Markup Language),   
 CSS (Cascading Style Sheet), and Adobe Photoshop CS6.

3. Test and improve the system in terms of functionality and reliability.  
4. Determine the level of acceptability of the developed system using ISO 9126.

**Scope and Delimitation of the Study**

The study focuses on designing, development, testing, and improvement of a   
Maternity Clinic Management System for *Jewel’s First Maternity Clinic*.  
The system provides the user an automated Patient Record Management System   
where the user can perform the prenatal and postnatal checkups, monitor patients who  
need immediate medical assistance, and create patient record reports.   
  
 In addition to this, the user can also perform a Clinic Item Monitoring to ensure that   
there are enough supplies for the clinic.

Scheduling System is also included in the study to manage the appointments between  
the doctors, midwives, and patients.

Billing System is also added to have a secured and fast issuing of Statement of Account for patients.

Lastly, Online Appointment is for the patients. Scheduling for an appointment made easy by knowing instantly the availability of desired date and time.

Laboratory result, Recording Labor and Delivery information of patients, and centralizing the database of two clinic branches are not included in the system.  
  
**Significance of the Study** This study that we will develop and deploy can help the *Jewel’s First Maternity Clinic* on securing their clinical records and most importantly the processing of their everyday clinical tasks. It will be simplified and maximized time spent. This will result into better maternal services and boost the profit.  
   
 Additionally, this study will provide the patients a better service.