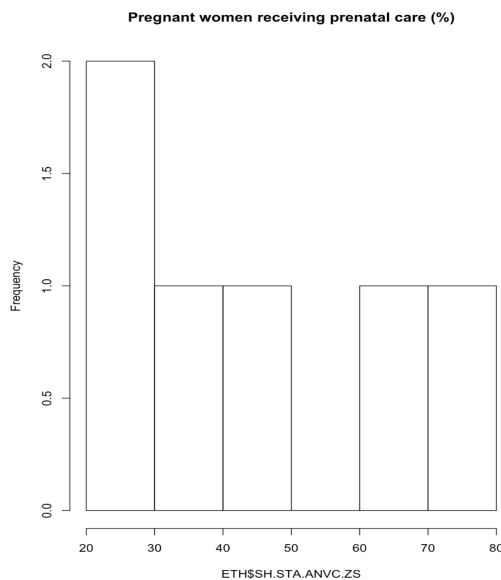


UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS

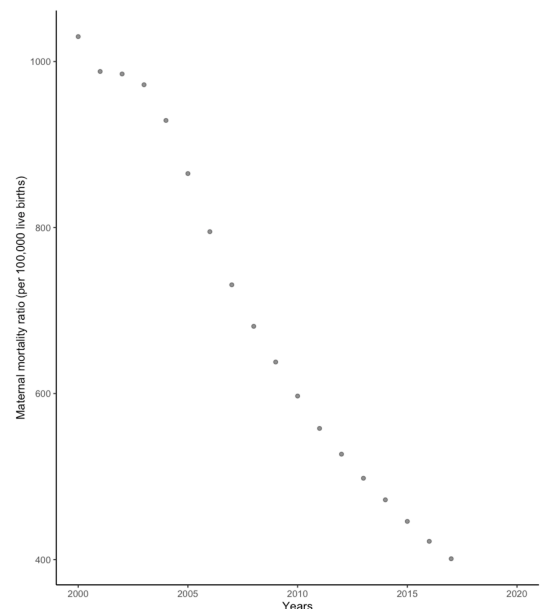
EMPOWERING ALL WOMEN

The government of Ethiopia (GOE) has made progress in enhancing health outcomes, primarily for women and children (Wang, H., Tesfaye, R., V., R. G. N., & Chekagn, C. T., 2016). However, ~83% of people who live in rural areas (Wang, H., Tesfaye, R., V., R. G. N., & Chekagn, C. T., 2016) struggle to afford healthcare services and medicines. How do we create more access to affordable and quality health services to enhance the health of mothers and neonates in Ethiopia?



Decreasing maternal mortality, decreasing under-five mortality for all children, and increasing prenatal care for all women is possible when we invest in Health Protection Programs (HEP) to enhance access to affordable and quality healthcare services and medicines, primarily in less privileged rural communities. From 2000 until 2019, an average of 44.23% of pregnant women received prenatal care, so increasing access to prenatal care for 55.77% of women in less than 3 years is helpful. The median of pregnant women receiving prenatal care aid is 37.55%. Since the mean is much more sensitive to extreme values than the median, it works well for symmetrical data. However, the current data is skewed, meaning it is not symmetrical. In this case, the median is essential to analyzing data, so increasing access to prenatal care for 62.45% of women in less than 2 years is vital.

How do we intervene to create access to essential health services? How do we intervene without harm? How do we ensure all pregnant women access affordable and quality prenatal care? If we invest in modern health facilities in urban and rural areas for underserved people and new non-invasive medical devices, we can enhance access to healthcare and bolster prenatal care for all women. 401 women died from pregnancy-related causes whereas pregnant or within 42 days of pregnancy per 100,000 live births in Ethiopia in 2017. Albeit the number of deaths has decreased by 61,06% from 2000 to 2017, an average of 696 women have died each year in the last 17 years. How do we create a secure reproductive health system where all women can be safe? How many health facilities should be built in both urban and rural areas to protect all women? How many new non-invasive medical devices should be manufactured to help at least 98% of the population every day?



Resources:

Wang, H., Tesfaye, R., V., R. G. N., & Chekagn, C. T. (2016). Ethiopia Health Extension Program: An institutionalized community approach for universal health coverage. World Bank Group.