

## ABSTRACT

In Myanmar, auxiliary midwives are volunteer health workers, and they are produced with the aim to provide maternal health service in rural areas. Furthermore, they serve as the link between the health systems and community. The aim of this study is to explore the factors influencing good involvement of auxiliary midwives in health service provision. Cross sectional analytic study was carried out in Salin Township, Magway Region. The study consisted of 160 auxiliary midwives from the 2 station hospital units and 5 rural health centers, using multistage stratified sampling method. Data were collected by face-to-face interview with the use of semi-structured questionnaire. Multiple logistic regression models was used to identify predictor variables for the good involvement of auxiliary midwives in health service provision. The findings indicated that knowledge (Odds ratio 7.71, 95% CI 3.34 – 17.77,  $p = 0.000$ ), support (Odds ratio 6.80, 95% CI 2.75 – 16.81,  $p = 0.000$ ) and time taken to go to the nearest health facility in minutes (Odds ratio 3.09, 95% CI 1.19–8.09) were positively associated with the good involvement of auxiliary midwives. In the presence of other auxiliary midwife or basic health staff in the same village, the auxiliary midwife was less likely to have good involvement in health service provision (Odds ratio 0.17, 95% CI 0.06 – 0.46,  $p = 0.001$ ). Furthermore, the study also revealed that the education status of the auxiliary midwives was a negative correlate of good involvement. The auxiliary midwives who were middle school passed and lower education status were more likely to have good involvement as compared to their counterparts (Odds ratio 3.51, 95% CI 1.24 – 9.94,  $p = 0.018$ ). An additional important finding from the study was that auxiliary midwives responsible for the village far distance from the health centre were more likely to have good involvement in health service provision compared to those from the villages nearer to the health centre (Odds ratio 3.09, 95% CI 1.19 – 8.09,  $p = 0.021$ ). This study identified the factors which facilitate the involvement of auxiliary midwives in health service provision, and thereby enhance understanding on the auxiliary midwife program.