

ABSTRACT

This study aimed at determining the factors influencing the utilization of antenatal care among infants' mothers in Monywa township. A community-based cross sectional analytical study was conducted from September to December, 2014 among 204 infants' mothers residing in urban and rural areas of Monywa township. The study aimed to describe socio-demographic characteristics, obstetric factors, knowledge on care of pregnancy. Among respondents, common age for mother were 28 years, 6.9% of illiteracy, 66.7% of working women, knowledge level (6- median score) and took AN care 93.6% but proper AN care utilization was 89.2% and accessibility of health care services was 64.2%. Practice and accessibility of AN care services were analyzed / determined on the basis of having and not having AN care by using vicariate & multivariate analysis. Multivariate logistic regression showed that women whose husbands had attended middle school level and above were 2.85 times more likely to use ANC services (Adjusted OR 2.85, 95% CI 1.01- 8.03) than those of up to primary school level. Mothers who having high knowledge score were 9.69 times more likely to take ANC services (Adjusted OR 9.69, 95% CI 2.14 – 43.80) than those of low score and mothers who had accessed services were 2.76 times likely to use ANC services (Adjusted OR 2.76, 95% CI 1.01 – 7.55) than those who had not accessed. Based on the findings of study it is recommended that community based education program should be provided to uplift the literacy rate of women and their husbands. Moreover health education programs should be strengthened to improve women's knowledge on care of pregnancy and benefits of ANC. Information on services provided free of charge by public health institutions should also be extended to community.