

**PERCEPTION OF BASIC HEALTH STAFFS ON IMMUNIZATION AND MATERNAL AND CHILD HELATH SERVICES IN SELECTED TOWNSHIP, MON STATE**

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**ABSTRACT**

Immunization and Maternal and Child health (MCH) services are mainly provided by midwives in rural areas of Myanmar. The primary objective was to assess the perception of Basic Health Staff on Immunization and MCH services in Ye and Mawlamyaing townships of Mon State according to different immunization coverage.

A cross-sectional descriptive study design using mixed methods of data collection were carried out during October to November 2016. Study populations were: Midwives, Public Health Supervisors, and Voluntary Health Workers (Auxiliary Midwives and Community Health Workers). After getting ethical approval, pre-test was done in Hmawbi Township. Altogether 91 Self Administered Questionnaire with MWs and 6 groups of FGDs with MWs, PHS 2s and VHWs who gave informed consent for main data collection. Observation was done on some selected activities.

Age of the respondents ranged from 23 to 59 years (mean age of  $37 \pm 9$  years). Only a small amount of MWs (14.3%) got staff housing and 7% of midwife from Ye Township could not reach the most distant place in the rainy season because of difficult transportation caused by strong season and insecurity. They are facing operational challenges including an insufficient supply of drugs and instruments. Experience in out of stock of medicines was noted: misoprostol (19.8%) and oxytocin (61.5%), about 23% and 2% received expired of the same drug during the past three months for management of PPH and 3rd stage of labour. One-third of MWs said that most vaccines they received were vaccine vial monitor stage 2. Since the trainings on AEFI were not given yearly at all townships, MWs with service 1 year were lacked in AEFI knowledge and MCH trainings were not given uniformly. Despite such constraints, MWs are well accepted. As the MWs are main actor from pregnancy to PN care and immunization, not only the community and mothers recognized them as vaccinator, PHS 2, AMWs and CHWs also preferred them to continue their immunization and MCH services. In conclusion, adequate and sustained provision of essential drugs and instruments is vital for a better outcome in MCH services performing by the midwives as key person for immunization program, which are strongly linked with AN care, delivery care, PN care.