

ABSTRACT

The community based cross-sectional analytic study was conducted in Gwa Township, Rakhine State in 2015 to find out the factors influencing utilization of skilled birth attendants for delivery. Total of 249 infants' mothers were interviewed using semi-structured questionnaires. Findings revealed that 54.6% of the respondents belonged to 20-29 years and 27.3% of the respondents were employed. About 55.5% of the respondents and 66.7% of their husbands had above primary school level of education. Approximately 43% of the respondents had low knowledge on danger signs during antenatal, delivery and postnatal period. They had inadequate knowledge on danger signs during postnatal period than that of other periods. Nearly 65% of the respondents attained knowledge on danger signs from health care providers at health center. Fifty-three percent of the respondents had high knowledge on skilled birth attendant (SBA) and 51.4% of the respondents had high overall knowledge on danger signs and SBA. Majority of the respondents (84.7%) had good attitude towards SBA. About 48% of the respondents delivered in health facilities for their last delivery. The most common reason for the institutional delivery was in order to achieve safe delivery and that of the home delivery was they considered that their pregnancy was being normal. The proportion of delivery by SBA was 77.5% whereas 80.7% in urban areas and 76.6% in rural areas. Unaffordability was a main reason for not delivered by SBA and safe delivery was a common reason for choosing delivery by SBA. By multivariate analysis, number of AN care (adjusted OR=4.188, 95%CI=2.005-8.748), knowledge on danger signs and SBA (adjusted OR=3.474, 95%CI=1.604-7.526), availability of health facility (adjusted OR=4.623, 95%CI=1.988-10.751) and affordability to health facility (adjusted OR=2.861, 95%CI=1.404-5.834) were the predictors for utilization of SBA. In conclusion, availability of health facility, one of the inputs to utilize SBA, should be emphasized. SBA utilization should be promoted to be higher. It was recommended that women in reproductive age should be well-informed about danger signs, benefits of MCH services and delivery attended by SBA.