

**UTILIZATION OF ANTENATAL, INTRANATAL AND
POSTNATAL SERVICES AMONG MOTHERS OF
INFANTS IN URBAN AREA OF OAK-PHO TOWNSHIP,
BAGO REGION (WEST)**

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ABSTRACT

A community-based cross-sectional analytic study was conducted among mothers of infants (n=180) in urban area of Oak-pho Township, Bago Region with the objective of studying the utilization of antenatal, delivery and postnatal care services. In Oak-pho Township, there are one township hospital (25-bedded), two station hospitals (16 bedded), maternal and child health care center, five rural health centers and thirty sub health center. Maternal and child health (MCH) care for urban area of Oak-pho Township is functioning by the manpower including township medical officer, MCH medical officer, township health nurse, lady health visitor and three midwives. The respondents were interviewed with semi-structured questionnaires. The study period was September to December, 2013. Mean age of the present study was 29.7 year with range of 18 to 44 year. Majority of the respondents (95%) had education level of primary and above. Among them, 74.4% were dependent and working group was only 25.6%. Most of the respondents had monthly family income of 50000 kyats and above. More than half of them (61.1%) lived in nuclear typed family and 38.9% lived in extended family. More than half of respondents (63.9%) had history of pregnancy for one or two times and 36.1% had three or more times. Most of their husbands (96.7%) had at least primary education level to graduation and they all were workings various services. Utilization of ANC services was 99% and this figure higher than national target of (80%) in 2015 to meet MDG. Nearly two third of respondents took ANC in first trimester and this factor had significant association with age ($p=0.023$) and number of pregnancy of the respondents ($p=0.001$). Concerning the antenatal visits, 87% of respondents had ANC for more than four times and respondents of extended family had adequate ANC visits than those of nuclear family ($p=0.006$). The respondents preferred to use government health care services than private services (72% took ANC in MCH clinic, 19.5% in government hospital and 2.2% at private services , 4.5% at their homes and 1.7% in other places). Nearly all respondents received antenatal interventions such as measuring BP, measuring body weight and height, blood and urine tests, injection ATT and taking multivitamins. There were 57 respondents who took ANC with alternative health care person and this factor was strongly associated with occupation ($p =0.006$) and monthly family income of the respondents ($p=0.044$). Proportion of skilled birth attendant was also high (89.4%) and there was statistically association between number of pregnancy and birth attendant ($p=<0.001$). Monthly family income was influencing factor of place of birth ($p=0.001$) and mode of delivery ($p=0.006$). Utilization of PNC was 83% but only 50% of respondents had four visits of PNC. All respondents in the present study

had their rights to take ANC, to choose place of delivery and birth attendant. Other reason of utilization of health care services was no transport problem to take health care. The present study revealed some socio-demographic characteristics influencing the maternal health-seeking pattern in urban area. The coverage of maternal health care services among urban mothers was satisfactory, but, utilization of health services may be different between urban and rural areas, as there were different barriers in rural such as poor road condition that cause delay in seeking care.