

Evaluation of the performance of the partograph in the Kisanga health zone in Lubumbashi

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Introduction:

The partograph allows adequate fetal-maternal care during childbirth and the immediate postpartum in a maternity hospital. The objective of this study was to determine the proportion of the correct use of the partograph in maternity hospitals in the Kisanga Health Zone in Lubumbashi.

Materials and Methods:

It was a cross-sectional study on the holding of the partograph, carried out in the Kisanga health zone in Lubumbashi during the month of November 2018. In total 794 partograms completed during the study period by providers in 89 maternity wards were analyzed. Two indicators have been known for the proper use of the partograph (for the decision price) and compliance with the benchmark. An element was considered correctly applied if its compliance rate was greater than 75%. The data were analyzed using SPSS 20

Results:

Of 794 partograms collected, 63.6% were official (MSP or WHO) and 36.4% of wealth. In 32.6% of maternities, filling the partograph was easy. In total, 10.1% of maternities made the decision based on the line of attention of the partograph and 17.2% based on the line of action. The overall compliance rate for filling the partograph was 43.4% [41.1-45.6]; it was 50.0% [47.8-52.5] for maternal parameters, 54% [52.8-56.0] for fetal-adnexal parameters and 48.2% [47.4- 49.0] postpartum. The decision-making was 18.4% [18.2-18.5] and the filling time 33.3% [29.3-37.3]. It was found that 85.1% of partograms were completed during labor and 3.0% postpartum. The first point was correctly placed on the alert line in 19.6%

Conclusions:

Partograph coverage, correct use and compliance rate are low in the Kisanga health zone. It turns out to be imperative to reinforce the correct use of the partograph and to rethink, if possible, a more simplified model with very sensitive items.

Key messages:

- This study has just helped to identify the parts of the partograms which are among the least filled and therefore the least understood by health care providers in health facilities.
- It has the merit of putting the thorny question of simplifying partograms back on the table for discussion in order to facilitate optimal use.