



GYNECOLOGY, OBSTETRICS AND WOMEN'S HEALTH

November 20-21, 2023 | Dubai, UAE

Title: Women Health Literacy and Associated Factors on Women and Child Health Care in Ilu Ababor Public Health Facilities, Ethiopia.

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Background

Maternal health literacy (MHL) is the ability of mothers to obtain, interpret, appraise, and apply women and child health information that contributes to a reduction in mortality among mothers and children. This is an important concern since a woman's health during pregnancy may be her first interaction with the healthcare system, and a woman's comprehension of health information has a direct impact on her unborn child's growth throughout the process of conception.

Aim: assess the degree of maternal health literacy and related factors in women's and children's health care among mothers that children have received basic immunizations at the public healthcare facilities in Ilu Abba Boor.

Methods and materials

A cross-sectional study was carried out in the facility between December 2021 and January 2022. Investigators trained supervisors and data collectors for five days prior to data collection. Through basic random sampling, 411 mothers whose children had received the minimum set of vaccinations from health facilities in the Ilu Ababor zone of Oromia, Ethiopia, were chosen. Face-to-face interviews were used to gather the data, which were then imported into Epidata 4.1 and exported to SPSS. The factors associated with maternal health literacy in maternal and child healthcare were identified through the application of descriptive statistics, bivariate analysis, and multivariable logistic regression analyses. The findings are displayed in the form of graphs, tables, and figures.

Results

This study had a 100% response rate when 411 participants were invited to participate. The mean maternal health literacy score was 28.5±10.3. Most of the women (293 [71.3%]) had inadequate health literacy levels when 118 (28.7%) had adequate. Multiple logistic regression analysis revealed a significant association between maternal health literacy and residence (AOR=12.2(5.34, 24.48]), educational level (AOR=0.54(0.31, 1.87]), and antenatal care contact (AOR=0.14 [0.108, 0.167]).

Discussion and recommendation

This study shows that inadequate maternal health literacy affects the healthcare of mothers and children. Given the significance of health literacy for women's health, national health authorities ought to develop more educational initiatives aimed at raising health literacy rates and empowering women who are of reproductive age.

Keywords: maternal health literacy, women and child health care.





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Biography

Bikila Jiregna has completed his MSc at age of 28 years from Jimma University. He is lecturer, researcher, humanitarian worker, and health care professional at Mattu University, Ethiopia. He has over 10 research publications as author and co-authors. He has been serving as peer reviewer on international journals, advisorship and mentorship for graduate students.

Recent publication:

- Jiregna B, Amare M, Dinku M, Nigatu D, Desalegn D. Women Health Literacy and 1. Associated Factors on Women and Child Health Care in Ilu Ababor Public Health Facilities, Ethiopia. Int J Womens Health. 2024 Jan 26;16:143-152. doi: 10 TY -**BOOK**
- Jiregna B, Demeke T, Sewmehone E, Germossa, G Perception of women toward 2. childbirth positions among women on postnatal unit at Jimma Medical Center, Jimma town, South West Ethiopia: A Phenomenological Qualitative Study VL DO - 10.21203/rs.3.rs-121139/v1 ER -.2147/IJWH.S443198. PMID: 38292301; PMCID: PMC10826516.
- 3. Amare M, Olani A, Hassen H, Jiregna B, Getachew N, Belina S. Perinatal Outcomes and Associated Factors among women with hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy Delivered in Jimma Zone Hospitals, Southwest Ethiopia. Ethiop J Health Sci. 2021 Nov;31(6):1145-1154. doi: 10.4314/ejhs.v31i6.9. PMID: 35392349; PMCID: PMC8968375.Email ID: john.doe13@outlook.com

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