

ABSTRACT

Background: Despite all the efforts made by the Ministry of Health to improve skilled delivery through programs such as Delivery of Improved Services for Health (DISH) which aims at training, recruiting and improving availability of health workers, utilization of skilled delivery remains low. Therefore, in light of the above findings there was need to carry out this study so as to establish the factors hindering deliveries at Mukuju Health Center IV, Tororo district.

Methodology: A cross-sectional study was conducted and both quantitative and qualitative data was collected. Data was analyzed using SPSS version 22 and results were presented, interpreted, and conclusions drawn from the study.

Results: Results showed that only 40% of women sought for skilled deliveries against 60% who opted for the services of traditional birth attendants. The major factors that hindered women from seeking skilled deliveries included age, marital status, education level, income levels, associated costs of skilled deliveries, health worker availability and ability to sensitize women on skilled deliveries, costs of transport involved and fear of caesarian birth once taken to the health facility. Those factors hindered women's choice of a place for delivery and majority hence sought for traditional birth attendants since they were easily accessible and negligible costs attached.

Conclusions: The study concluded that the level of uptake of skilled deliveries was very low. The major factors that contributed to the low uptake of utilization of skilled deliveries were low levels of awareness, cultural and traditional beliefs.

Recommendations: Increase the levels of awareness through health education by health workers Specific training to the health workers on skilled deliveries in order to improve on the level of skilled deliveries across district of Tororo. Motivation of health workers by the government through increase in remuneration packages Improvement in physical and technological infrastructure through-out Tororo district