

ABSTRACT

This study focused on “factors influencing delivery of mothers by SBA in Bugisu Sub region”. The research set out to establish factors influencing delivery of mothers by SBAs with specific objectives to: determine the proportion of mothers delivered by SBA; establish social demographic factors influencing delivery of mothers by SBA; identify health system factors influencing delivery of mothers by SBA; determine cultural beliefs influencing delivery of mothers by SBA; and to establish the relationship between social demographic factors and uptake of SBA.

A descriptive cross sectional study was conducted by administering a structured questionnaire to 400 women between the ages of 18-49 years who had delivered within 24 months prior to the survey. Socio-demographic factors, health systems factors, cultural believe and other SBA related factors were collected and analysed.

Majority, 213 (53.25%) of respondents were above or equal to the mean age of 27.5 years and the rest were less than or equal to 27.5 years. Only 54% had SBA services with the rest delivering at home. Reasons cited for home delivery: short labour (22.40%); influenced by relatives (6.56%); personal preference (13.66%) and Health workers harshness (13.66%). Parity, (≤ 3) odds ratio (OR)=1 and ≥ 3 OR=0.74 95% (0.49 -1.09); uptake of SBA was highly associated with the level of education (contrast less) OR=2.16 (0.89 - 5.27); married women living, (contrast widowed, separated, single and cohabiting) OR=0.09 (0.02 – 0.39) P-value = 0.01 and mothers discouraged by the delivery position OR=0.21 (0.12 – 0.36) P-value= <0.0001.

In conclusion though maternity mortality remains a challenge in Uganda and Bugisu sub region in particular, the study findings indicate that the situation can change for better if: provision women’s education, MCH education during ANC, extension health workers, community awareness programs

and focused home visits by health workers in hard to reach areas could lead to increased uptake of SBA thus reduction in MMR.

Some of the recommendations include; strengthen advocacy and building partnerships between governments, FBOs and NGOs, recruiting and deployment of all health workers and posting of trained extension mid wives in hard to reach areas so as to avert the challenge of mothers using TBA.