

Abstract

Determinants of pregnancy outcomes in Uganda

The goal of the study was to evaluate the risk factors having an impact on pregnancy outcome in Uganda before 2006 based on 8369 mothers who participated in the UDHS (1962 had ever experienced non live birth).

The study involved univariate, bivariate (Pearson chi-square) and multivariate (Logistic regression model) analysis to establish the statistical significance of socio-economic and demographic factors on pregnancy outcomes. The study showed that pregnancy outcomes are significantly associated with mother's education level, age, marital status, wealth index, residence and domestic violence ($p < 0.05$). Multivariate analysis revealed that mother's education level, marital status, age and place of residence have significant effect on pregnancy outcome ($p < 0.05$). It is concluded that pregnancy outcomes depend on mother's education. Wealth index does not determine pregnancy outcome. Marital status determines pregnancy outcome. Domestic violence was found to be associated with pregnancy outcome. Mother's age at the time of delivery determines pregnancy outcome. Mother's place of residence determines pregnancy outcome. Birth order of the child affect pregnancy outcome.

It is recommended that stakeholders should support USE with gender component embedded, improving the availability of primary health care and easy access to social and family planning services, paying much more attention to older women during pregnancy and delivery to reduce the high cases of still birth and initiating and enforcing women's organizations especially the widowed.