

### **OP38: Knowledge on prevention and management of postpartum hemorrhage and influence of socio demographic and work related factors on it among midwives in Jaffna district**

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**Introduction:** Postpartum hemorrhage is the one of the leading cause for the maternal mortality in worldwide. It's life threatening condition and an obstetric emergency. It is still an important issue in developing countries. World Health Organization (WHO) define the postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) is a blood loss of 500ml or more within 24 hours after birth. Adequate knowledge of midwives regarding prevention and management of PPH help to identify the risk population as much as early and minimize the complications due to PPH.

**Methodology:** Institutional based descriptive cross sectional study was carried out in Jaffna district from August 2018 to July 2019. Study population was 186 public health midwives working either in the field or in the hospitals. A self-administered questionnaire was used to collect data. Data was analyzed by using SPSS (Statistical Package of Social Sciences) version 21 and data was calculated as mean and percentages and presented in tables and diagrams. Chi-square test was used to identify variables. Ethical approval was obtained from ERC, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna.

**Results:** All the midwives (208) were approached, among them 186 midwives had given their consent to participate. Response rate was 89.4%. Age range of the participants varied from 27 to 65 years old with the mean age of 37.6 (SD=7.4). All the participants were Sri Lankan Tamil. Majority of them (91.4%) were Hindus. The participants who worked in field and hospital were 71.5% and 28.5% respectively. Participants were categorized into adequate knowledge (54.8%) and inadequate knowledge (45.2%) by using 50% pre determine cut off value. Mean knowledge was 55.9. Statistically significant relationship ( $p < 0.05$ ) was found with the age, educational level, advance level stream, current working places, participated in-service training programme regarding PPH, numbers of training programme and experienced in managed PPH mother.

**Conclusion:** The study revealed that more than half of the midwives had adequate knowledge about prevention and management of postpartum hemorrhage.

**Keywords:** Knowledge; Postpartum hemorrhage; Public health midwives; Jaffna district