Analysis of Incomplete Abortion Rates At Axim Government Hospital

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Positive Deviance

Excerpt from Dr. W. Bertrand’s ppt (from Dr. Dyer’s presentation on Day 2 of our arrival):

“\textbf{In every community/organization there are certain cases whose \textit{uncommon practices/behaviors} enable them to find \textit{better solutions} to problems than others who have access to the \textit{same resources}”}.
Positive Deviance (review)

- **DEFINE**
  - Define the problem and define successful outcomes.

- **DETERMINE**
  - Determine/identify current positive deviants in the community.

- **DISCOVER**
  - Discover uncommon practices/behaviors enabling the PDs to outperform/find better solutions to the problem.
Positive Deviance (review)

- **DESIGN**
  - Design and implement intervention measures.

- **DISCERN**
  - Discern the effectiveness of PD activities via ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

- **DISSEMINATE**
  - Disseminate successful information to appropriate personelle.
Axim Government Hospital
Pregnancy Class

- Via the assistance of several volunteer nurse midwives, a **weekly pregnancy class** is held at AGH on Sundays at 6 pm.

- Participants **are well informed of all potential pregnancy complications**, details of hospital admission, warning signs to seek prompt treatment, and antepartum/postpartum care.

- The Medical Director and Nursing staff report that the **number PROM cases, pregnancy-related anemia due to Malaria, and placental abruptions have decreased** in the past year.
MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REVIEW

AXIM GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL

2010 PRESENTATION BY:

DR. GEORGE KOJO OWUSU
Head Teacher: Mr. Charles Aeqnah
Mr. Aeqnah reports that the incidence of teenage pregnancy has risen within the past five years.

He describes several instances where older men in the community have been caught coming to the school in order to lure the school girls away for “fun”.

He states that “some girls will ask to use the washroom and never return” because the men will be waiting for them” and will subsequently take the young girls away from school.
Hypotheses

- Are there increased numbers of Incomplete Abortions in teenage girls in the Axim Community?

- Is the rate of Incomplete Abortions disproportionately higher in Student populations?
Incomplete Abortions

“Complications from unsafe abortions are believed to account for the largest proportion of hospital admissions for gynaecological services in developing countries” [1].

The WHO estimates that one in eight pregnancy-related deaths result from unsafe abortions” [2].

Study Design

Chart Reviews of Axim Government Hospital:

- Maternity Ward
- Female Ward
- Outpatient Clinic

Women, ages 10-47, who presented less than 22 weeks were included in the study.
## Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Total Number of IA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35+</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total # of Incomplete Abortions (IA)
Total # of Student Incomplete Abortions

- 10-14: 4
- 15-19: 16
- 20-24: 5
- 25-29: 2
- 30-34: 1
- 35+: 1
Total # of Student Incomplete Abortions – Criminal

- 10-14: 2
- 15-19: 10
- 20-24: 1
- 25-29: 0
- 30-34: 0
- 35+: 0
The Total Number of Incomplete Abortions was the highest in the 20-24 age group (62).

The Total Number of Student Incomplete Abortions was the highest in the 15-19 age group (16).

The Total Number of Criminal Student Incomplete Abortions was the highest in the 15-19 age group (10).
Impact of Traditional Healers
The Incidence of teenage Criminal Incomplete Abortion rates may be decreased because the teens may seek additional methods to terminate pregnancy; such as, assistance from local traditional healers.
In order to decrease the rates of teenage pregnancy and the incidence of teenage Criminal Incomplete Abortions, instructors of the Axim Pregnancy Class will hold monthly sessions in which the attendants will invite their teenage sisters, friends, and/or family members to be instructed on pregnancy prevention and indications of when they should seek medical treatment if they feel that they are having an abortion.
REFERENCES

• Hospital admissions resulting from unsafe abortion: estimates from 13 developing countries. The Lancet, Volume 368, Issue 9550, Pages 1887 - 1892, 25 November 2006.


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Questions