

Special Issue

Improving the Quality of Maternity Care

Message from the Guest Editor

While there have been improvements in maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity globally over the past two decades, these improvements have not been universal. Some regions have seen little to no progress, and in countries like the United States, maternal mortality has even increased. Maternity care must incorporate evidence-based interventions that respect women's preferences. Central to all maternity care is the provision of respectful care, which the World Health Organization defines as including freedom from abuse and violence, informed consent, privacy, effective communication and shared decision-making, dignity, respect, safety, and justice. To successfully reduce maternal and infant mortality and morbidity, access to quality care is essential at every stage of the childbearing process. This includes comprehensive reproductive health services, antenatal care, intrapartum care, and postnatal care. Improving maternal and newborn outcomes in a way that is inclusive and reduces disparities is achievable, but it requires sustained and coordinated efforts from both providers and policymakers.

Guest Editor

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Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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