

# WHO recommendations for positive pregnancy and childbirth experience

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# Quality of care matters

- Due to focused efforts, facility-based childbirth is increasing globally
- Coverage of essential interventions is not enough

- Experience of care

Review

Highly accessed

Open Access

**Facilitators and barriers to facility-based delivery in low- and middle-income countries: a qualitative evidence synthesis**

Meghan A Bohren<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Erin C Hunter<sup>1</sup>, Heather M Munthe-Kaas<sup>3</sup>, João Paulo Souza<sup>4</sup>, Joshua P Vogel<sup>2</sup> and A Metin Gülmezoglu<sup>2</sup>



## Moving beyond essential interventions for reduction of maternal mortality (the WHO Multicountry Survey on Maternal and Newborn Health): a cross-sectional study

João Paulo Souza, Ahmet Metin Gülmezoglu, Joshua Vogel, Guillermo Carroli, Pisake Lumbiganon, Zahida Qureshi, Maria José Costa, Bukola Fawole, Yvonne Mugerwa, Idi Nafiu, Isilda Neves, Jean-José Wolomy-Molondo, Hoang Thi Bang, Kannitha Cheang, Kang Chuyun, Kapila Jayaratne, Chandani Anoma Jayathilaka, Syeda Batool Mazhar, Rintaro Mori, Mir Lais Mustafa, Laxmi Raj Pathak, Deepthi Perera, Tung Rathavy, Zenaida Recidoro, Malabika Roy, Pang Ruyan, Naveen Shrestha, Surasak Taneepanichsku, Nguyen Viet Tien, Togoobaatar Ganchimeg, Mira Wehbe, Buyanjargal Yadamsuren, Wang Yan, Khalid Yunis, Vicente Bataglia, José Guilherme Cecatti, Bernardo Hernandez-Prado, Juan Manuel Nardin, Alberto Narváez, Eduardo Ortiz-Panozo, Ricardo Pérez-Cuevas, Eliette Valladares, Nelly Zavaleta, Anthony Amson, Caroline Crowther, Carol Hogue, Gunilla Lindmark, Suneeta Mittal, Robert Pattinson, Mary Ellen Stanton, Liana Campodonico, Cristina Cuesta, Daniel Giordano, Nirun Intarut, Malinee Laopaiboon, Rajiv Bahl, Jose Martinez, Matthews Mathai, Mario Meriadi, Lale Say

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## The Mistreatment of Women during Childbirth in Health Facilities Globally: A Mixed-Methods Systematic Review

Meghan A. Bohren<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Joshua P. Vogel<sup>2</sup>, Erin C. Hunter<sup>3</sup>, Olha Lutsiv<sup>4</sup>, Suprita K. Makh<sup>5</sup>, João Paulo Souza<sup>6</sup>, Carolina Aguiar<sup>1</sup>, Fernando Saraiva Coneglian<sup>6</sup>, Alex Luiz Araújo Diniz<sup>6</sup>, Özge Tunçalp<sup>2</sup>, Dena Javadi<sup>3</sup>, Olufemi T. Oladapo<sup>2</sup>, Rajat Khosla<sup>2</sup>, Michelle J. Hindin<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Metin Gülmezoglu<sup>2</sup>

# WHO vision

Efforts to achieve **Universal Health Coverage** are aimed to provide all women, children and adolescents access to the health care system

**Every mother and newborn receives quality care throughout the pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal periods**

## Quality of care for pregnant women and newborns—the WHO vision

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<sup>a</sup> Department of Reproductive Health and Research including UNDP/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP), World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland <sup>b</sup> Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland <sup>c</sup> Family, Women and Children's Health Cluster, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

### JOINT STATEMENT

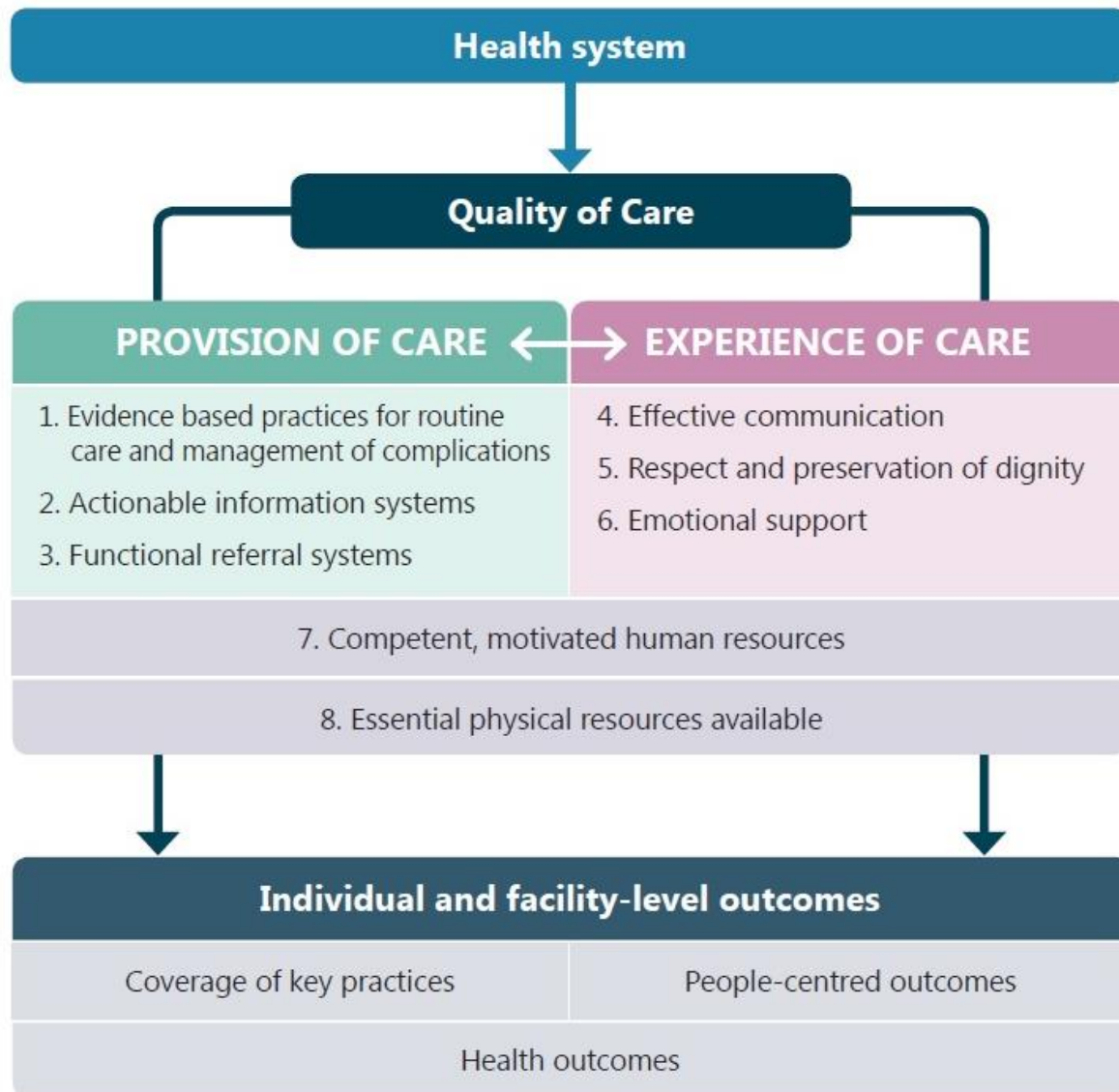
Improving Quality of Maternal and Newborn Care in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

#### A Commitment to Action from Health Care Professional Associations

*This International Joint Statement was reviewed and endorsed by the Council of International Neonatal Nurses (COINN), the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), the International Council of Nurses (ICN), the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), and the International Pediatric Association (IPA).*

*The statement was developed by the United States Agency for International Development's Applying Science to Strengthen and Improve Systems (ASSIST) with support from the Every Premie-SCALE project, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM), the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), Global Alliance to Prevent Prematurity and Stillbirth (GAPPS) and Save the Children's Saving Newborn Lives project.*

# Conceptual framework for quality of care in maternal, newborn (and child health)



# What matters to women

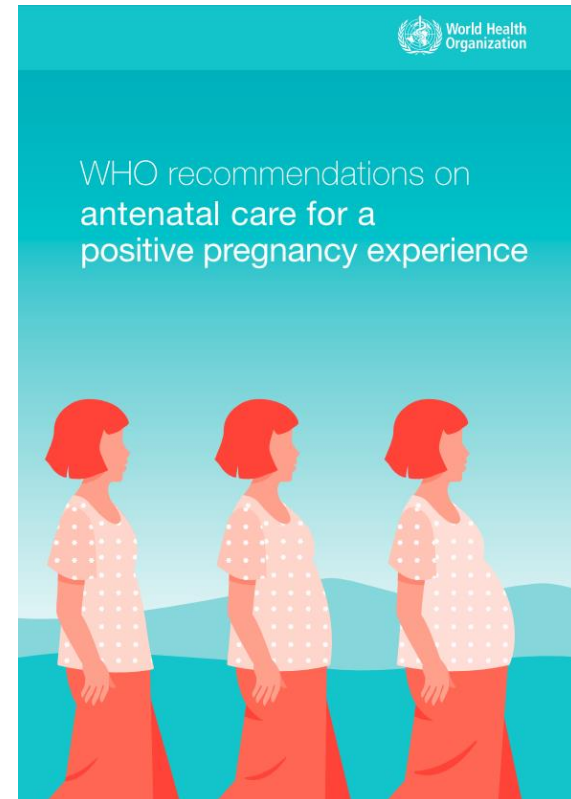
Women want a  
**Positive  
Pregnancy  
Experience**  
from ANC



Downe S et al, *BJOG* (2016) What matters to women a systematic scoping review to identify the processes and outcomes of antenatal care provision that are important to healthy pregnant women

# WHO antenatal care guideline – Nov 2016



- ❑ Prioritizes **person-centred health and well-being**:
  - Reducing mortality and morbidity
  - Providing respectful care that takes into account woman's views
  - Optimizing service delivery within health systems



# What's in a name? – contacts versus visits

**Quality antenatal care will:**



-  Encourage women to seek **skilled care at childbirth**
-  **Reduce stillbirths, childbirth complications and newborn deaths**
-  **Help women get care and counselling** for HIV, malaria, TB and other conditions

Quality antenatal care should be available for all women to ensure a positive pregnancy experience.



**Throughout pregnancy, all women should have 8 contacts with a health provider.**  
These can happen in settings such as:

**Health Facilities**      **Community Outreach Services**



Health systems should ensure that all providers are empowered and equipped with necessary skills and supplies.



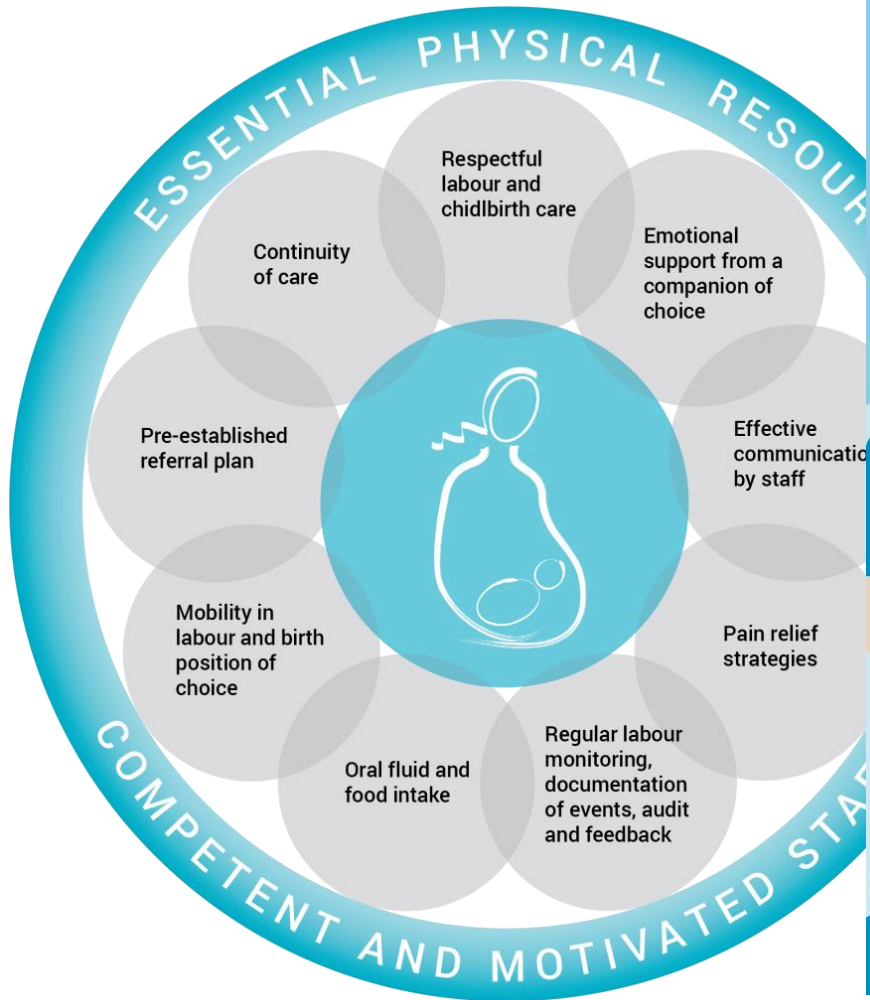
# WHO intrapartum care guideline – Feb 2018



- 56 evidence-based recommendations
  - 26 new recommendations
  - 30 existing recommendations from previously published WHO guidelines

<http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/intrapartum-care-guidelines/en/>

# WHO intrapartum care model



**ALL WOMEN HAVE A RIGHT TO A POSITIVE CHILDBIRTH EXPERIENCE THAT INCLUDES:**

- Respect and dignity
- A companion of choice
- Clear communication by maternity staff
- Pain relief strategies
- Mobility in labour and birth position of choice



## Effective implementation of ANC and IPC requires:

- Health systems approach and strengthening
  - **Continuity** of care
  - **Integrated, quality** service delivery
  - Improved **communication** with, and **support** for women
  - **Empowered** health care providers
    - Recruitment and retention of staff in rural and remote areas
    - Capacity building
  - Availability of **supplies, commodities** and **data monitoring**

Leading rigorous  
and independent  
research around  
the world in sexual  
and reproductive  
health and rights



[www.who.int/reproductivehealth](http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth)

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