



Children in Armed Conflict

"Rights, Health and Wellbeing"

American University of Beirut, Lebanon
Saint Joseph University in Beirut (preconference)

Maternal And Neonatal Deaths In Conflict Zone

**Analysis Of Mortality Data From Tertiary Hospital of Of Al-Hodiedah City In
Yemen**

Amer salmeen Balafair

Professor of Gyneacology & Obstertric

Abdulla Salem Bin Ghouth

Professor Of Community Medicine

Hadramout University (YEMEN)

Introduction

Update from UNICEF reports (2019):

- **One women and 6 neonates** died every two hours in Yemen
- Increase the number of maternal deaths from 5 deaths /day in 2013 to **12 deaths /day** in 2018
- One mother died out of 260 mother during pregnancy and or labor
- **One** out of **37 neonate** died
- **Two out of 10 mothers** gave their birth in health facility.

Source: (<https://www.unicef.org/mena/media/4881/file/YEM-ParentingInAWarZone-Pamphlet-June2019-AR.pdf.pdf>)

Introduction

- Yemen suffers from the worst humanitarian disaster affecting all components of the health system.
- Maternal and neonatal care is of a top emergency concern.
- Al-Hodiedah is the most Yemeni governorate living a dangerous armed crises.

Objective

To identify the most causes of maternal and neonatal deaths during the period of armed conflicts in Al-Hodiedah governorate.

Methodology

- Review the records of the deaths occurred in Al-Thowrah hospital in Al-Hodiedah during the period of 2015 to 2018

Results

- Maternal mortality ratio among admitted women at reproductive age group (15-44 years) were 432/100,000 (124/28651)

Table 1. Causes Of Maternal Deaths In Al-Thwrah Hospital, 2013-2018

%	Number maternal deaths	Cause of maternal deaths
31%	39	Pre-eclampsia
13.7%	17	Vaginal bleeding
7%	9	Eclampsia
1.7%	2	Post-operative
5.6%	7	Uterin Rupture
5%	4	Anaemia
5.6%	7	Ceaserean Section
0.8%	1	Placenta Abruptio
30.6%	38	Others indirect causes
100%	124	Total

Results:

Neonatal Death

There were **2017** deaths at the infancy period reported in the hospital during 2013-2018; out of them **1055** deaths were neonates giving the proportion of neonatal death among infant deaths to **52.3%**.

Table 2. Causes Of Neonatal Death

%	Neonate	
20%	168	Low Birth Weight& Prematurity
15%	161	Neonatal Sepsis
11%	116	Respiratory Distress Syndrome
9%	92	Neonatal tetanus
4%	39	Neonatal Jaundice
3%	32	Neonatal apnea
3%	32	Asphyxia
2%	23	Pre-umbilical cellulites
0.8%	9	Neonatal Cyanosis
0.2%	3	Hypoxia
0.2%	3	Hydrocephalus
36%	377	Others
100%	1055	Total

Conclusions

Although high maternal and neonatal deaths were reported in this study hospital; **it is expected that a lot of maternal and neonatal deaths were hidden in the community** and being not reported. This is part of the tragedy in the conflict period in Yemen. More support is needed from ministry of health and donors to improve the maternal and child health.