



The Open Public Health Journal

Content list available at: <https://openpublichealthjournal.com>

Supplementary Material



The Utilization of Antenatal Care Services among the Pregnant Women in Somalia: A Scoping Review

Kaltun Said Ali^{1,*}, Alauddin Chowdhury ABM² and Christopher O. Aimakhu^{1,3}

¹Pan African University, Institute of Life and Earth Sciences, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

²Department of Public Health, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Daffodil International University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

³Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

PRISMA 2020 Checklist.

Section and Topic	Item #	Checklist item	Location where item is reported
TITLE			
Title	1	The Utilization of Antenatal Care Services among the Pregnant Women in Somalia: A Scoping Review	Declared all the following
ABSTRACT			
Abstract	2	Background: Somalia women suffer from one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. The good utilization of antenatal care (ANC) services plays a major role in minimizing maternal and child mortality. The study aimed to identify the utilization of antenatal care services among pregnant women in Somalia. Methodology: We performed a scoping review based on the York methodology. This methodology entails a thorough search of published academic articles, conference proceedings, and grey literature via PUBMED, Google, and Google Scholar, focusing on English-language materials. Results: Findings revealed that a significant number of Somali pregnant women utilize the ANC services, though not to the required number of visits as recommended by the WHO. Reasons obtained for an inadequate visit or non-utilization of the ANC services were, among others, financial constraints, bad attitude of the health care providers, lack of accessibility because ANC services were distant, partner's attitude towards ANC services, long waiting times, family matters, lack of awareness or media exposure, gravida, parity, with a good number of them believing that ANC was not essential for their health. Conclusion: The motivation to utilize ANC services and the initiation of visits within the early stages of pregnancy and the completion of the required number of visits during pregnancy is essential in preventing pregnancy-related complications and reducing maternal mortality. This must be encouraged among Somali women.	Page 1
INTRODUCTION			
Rationale	3	Globally, about 303,000 women died in 2015 because of pregnancy and childbirth complications. Most maternal deaths occur in middle and low-income countries. Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for more than half. Although maternal mortality rates have decreased globally, they nonetheless remain too high, particularly in developing nations. The main cause of death and disability in women of reproductive age is complications during pregnancy and childbirth. Simple, affordable maternal care services, such as antenatal care (ANC), competent birth attendants, and postnatal care might stop these pregnancy-related deaths. Even though the use of ANC in underdeveloped nations has significantly increased, only a small percentage of pregnant women attend up to four ANC consultations.	Page 2
Objectives	4	This study aimed to identify the utilization of antenatal care services among pregnant women in Somalia.	Page 2
METHODS			
Eligibility criteria	5	The inclusion criterion was information about the utilization of antenatal care services in Somalia; we included the more recent data from 2012 onwards. We excluded all the data older than ten years and the information from countries other than Somalia. Finally, all results were summarized and reported.	Page 3

Information sources & Search strategy	7	This methodology entails a thorough search of published academic articles, conference proceedings, and grey literature via PUBMED, Google, and Google Scholar, focusing on English-language materials	Page 3
Selection process& Data collection process	8	We performed a scoping review based on the York methodology. This methodology entails a thorough search of published academic articles, conference proceedings, and grey literature via PUBMED, Google, and Google Scholar, focusing on English-language materials.	Page 3
RESULTS			
Study characteristics	17	Availability, accessibility, acceptability and affordability.	
Risk of bias in studies	18	Findings revealed that a significant number of Somali pregnant women utilize the ANC services, though not to the required number of visits as recommended by the WHO. Reasons obtained for an inadequate visit or non-utilization of the ANC services were, among others, financial constraints, bad attitude of the health care providers, lack of accessibility because ANC services were distant, partner's attitude towards ANC services, long waiting times, family matters, lack of awareness or media exposure, gravida, parity, with a good number of them believing that ANC was not essential for their health.	Page 4
DISCUSSION			
Discussion	23a	The utilization of ANC services among Somali women was adequate. However, more than half of the expectant women managed four visits, with approximately 2 to 3 visits not following the WHO's recommendations of a minimum of four ANC visits, with early commencement of the first visit occurring within the first 12 weeks of the gestational period. However, healthcare facilities were accessible to most Somali women to receive ANC services. This was emphasized by [37]. this research stating approximately 80% of the study participants live within a distance of 5 Kilometers or below. Though, a discouraging factor is most of them travel on foot to get these services [38]. Most of these women prefer private facilities [2]. This observation was also similar to the [37] study, which observed approximately 60% of the women preferred a private facility. This may be ascribed to healthcare workers' adequate facilities and/or attitude within the private facility.	Page 5
OTHER INFORMATION			
Registration and protocol	24a	University collage hospital, University of Ibadan.	Page4 all
	24b	This study was approved by Pan African University, Institute of Life and Earth Sciences, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.	
	24c	Registration no: NHREC/05/01/2008a	
Support	25	Pan African university	
Competing interests	26	The authors declare no conflicts of interest, financial or otherwise.	

From: Page MJ, McKenzie JE, Bossuyt PM, Boutron I, Hoffmann TC, Mulrow CD, *et al.* The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. *BMJ* 2021;372:n71. doi: 10.1136/bmj.n71.

For more information, visit: <http://www.prisma-statement.org/>