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The Perceptions of the Midwives on the Use of the Discharge Support Information Package for Mother-Baby-Pairs in the City of Tshwane: A Quantitative Analysis

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The World Health Organization emphasise that post-partum women need support at three, seven and six weeks postnatal. It was unknown whether the City of Tshwane's clinics provided adequate support. The objective of the study was to describe the perceptions of the midwives on the use of the discharge support information package used by midwives for the postpartum women at the City of Tshwane's clinics. A quantitative cross-sectional, descriptive study was conducted using structured questionnaires. Midwives, employed at three primary health care facilities in the City of Tshwane completed questionnaires. Data were analysed using STATA V13 statistical software. Fisher's Exact Test was used to identify relationships between different variables of interest in particular age group and according to the midwife's years of experience. Of the midwives 93% (n=25) identified the most important support need to be informational support during the postnatal check-up of the first time mother-baby pair within six weeks postpartum, emotional support was the second most needed support 31% (n=17), Only 13% (n=7) and 11% (n=6) of the respondents indicated that they need instrumental and appraisal support respectively. The Postnatal Care Policy should be implemented in all health care facilities providing postpartum care.

Biography:

Mmajapi E. Tshidi Masala-Chokwe is a lecturer of Midwifery in Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) since 2003 to date. She has qualified in Advanced Midwifery and Neonatal Science, M Tech Nursing and D Tech Nursing Science: just qualified and awaiting graduations (TUT). She is a reviewer for accredited Journals locally and internationally. She is an external examiner for Masters Programmes. She has published 8 papers in accredited journals and presented 9 papers at national and international midwifery conferences. She took part as a faculty in the Maternal Child Health Nurse Leadership Academy (MCH NLA) project 2014-2015. Took part in the project: 2011-2012 Academic Leadership Development Academy (ALDA) for STTI. She is a member of Society of midwives in South Africa (SOMSA) which is the affiliate of International Confederation of Midwives (ICM). Socially, she is a facilitator of the South African Nursing Students Association (SANSA) in our Nursing Department.