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**UNIVERSITY**

ILISHAN-REMO, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

# COLLEGE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

## 2022/2023 PhD Thesis Abstract

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**RT:** Development of a Training Module to Improve the Knowledge of Midwives on Postpartum Warning Signs in Primary Health Centres, Osun State, Nigeria

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**AB:** Postpartum warning signs are very important in the prevention of postpartum complications in new mothers and can be detected during postpartum visit. The provision of postpartum care in Nigeria is very low and many maternal deaths occur during the postpartum period due to missed postpartum warning signs. Studies have shown that midwives' knowledge of postpartum warning signs are low. The training of midwives on postpartum warning signs can improve the health education given to women and subsequently improve attendance to postpartum care. However, there are limited studies on training of midwives on postpartum warning signs. consequently, this study developed a training module to improve the knowledge of midwives on postpartum warning signs in primary health centres, Osun State, Nigeria.

The study utilized a concurrent mixed method research with a one group pre- and post-test quasi experimental design. The population for the study was 94 midwives. Taro Yamane's formula was used to calculate the sample size of 70. Simple random sampling technique was used to select 70 midwives for quantitative strand and purposive sampling technique was used to select 33 participants for the qualitative strand. Two validated instruments comprising of interview guide and questionnaire were used for data collection. Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the questionnaire ranges from 0.73 to 0.81. Response rate for the questionnaire was 100%. Data from need assessment was used to develop the module on

postpartum warning signs for the training of midwives using seven process steps. The developed module was implemented, and training of midwives was conducted three times a week for four weeks. Qualitative data were analyzed using Tesch's method of content analysis while the quantitative data were analysed using descriptive and inferential (paired t-test) statistics at  $p < 0.05$ .

The findings revealed four themes from the qualitative data: good knowledge of postpartum care; poor knowledge of postpartum warning signs; barriers to postpartum care "high inflow of patients and staff shortage, and challenges in adherence to postpartum care. The findings revealed poor knowledge on postpartum warning signs (33.5%). Factors affecting knowledge of postpartum warning signs include years of clinical experience (97.2%), lack of exposure to in-service training (88.6%) and lack of exposure to seminar on postpartum warning signs (87.1%). Furthermore, the study found out that there was significant effect of work experience of midwives on the knowledge of postpartum warning signs ( $F(3, 69) = 5.56, p < 0.05$ ) and a significant difference between pre- and post-intervention knowledge mean score of postpartum warning signs knowledge gained ( $t_{62} = 8.75, p < 0.05$ ).

In conclusion, the developed training module improved midwives' knowledge on postpartum warning signs. Therefore, it was recommended that the module should be made available for the periodic training of midwives on postpartum warning signs.

**Keywords:** Midwives knowledge, Postpartum care, Postpartum warning signs, Primary Health care centers, Training module development

**Word Count:** 449

*Abbreviations: RFN: Researcher's Full Name, RD: Researcher's Department, RS: Researcher's School, RE: Researcher's Email, RAE: Researcher's Alternate Email, RP: Researcher's Phone Contact, RT: Registered Title, MS: Main Supervisor, ME: Main Supervisor's E-mail Address, SP: Main Supervisor's Phone Contact, CS: Co-Supervisor, CE: Co-Supervisor's E-mail Address, CP: Co-Supervisor's Phone Contact, AB: Abstract*

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