Pregnancy, Childbirth, Postpartum and Newborn Care:

A guide for essential practice











Integrated Management of Pregnancy and Childbirth

Pregnancy, Childbirth, Postpartum and Newborn Care: A guide for essential practice

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PREFACE

'Pregnancy, Childbirth, Postpartum and Newborn Care: A guide for essential practice' (PCPNC) has been updated to include recommendations from recently approved WHO guidelines relevant to maternal and perinatal health. These include pre-eclampsia & eclampsia; postpartum haemorrhage; postnatal care for the mother and baby; newborn resuscitation; prevention of mother-to- child transmission of HIV; HIV and infant feeding; malaria in pregnancy, tobacco use and second-hand exposure in pregnancy, post-partum depression, post-partum family planning and post abortion care.

This revised guide brings a full range of updated evidence – based norms and standards that enable health care providers at the first health care level to provide high-quality, integrated care during pregnancy and childbirth and after birth, both for mothers and babies. This guide will support countries in their efforts to reach every woman and child and ensure that pregnancy, birth and the first postnatal weeks are the joyful and safe experience they should be. The guide will be updated periodically as new WHO recommendations become available.

This guide represents a common understanding between WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, and the World Bank of key elements of an approach to reducing maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity. These agencies co-operate closely in efforts to reduce maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity. The principles and policies of each agency are governed by the relevant decisions of each agency's governing body and each agency implements the interventions described in this document in accordance with these principles and policies and within the scope of its mandate.

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Revisions were subsequently carried out by Annie Portela, Luc de Bernis, Ornella Lincetto, Rita Kabra, Maggie Usher, Agostino Borra, Rick Guidotti, Elisabeth Hoff, Mathews Matthai, Monir Islam, Felicity Savage, Adepeyu Olukoya, Aafje Rietveld, TinTin Sint, Ekpini Ehounou, Suman Mehta.

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- Reproductive Health and Research (RHR)
- Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (MCA)
- HIV/AIDS
- Nutrition for Health and Development (NHD)
- Essential Medicines and Health Products (EMP)
- Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals (IVB)
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MSD)
- Gender, Women and Health (GWH)
- Prevention of Blindness and Deafness (PBD)
- Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases (PND)

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The guide was also reviewed and endorsed by the International Confederation of Midwives, the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics and International Pediatric Association.







International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics



International Pediatric Association

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The present version was revised and updated by Jelka Zupan and Juana Willumsen. Overall technical direction and supervision of the document was maintained by Maurice Bucagu of WHO/MCA.

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