

Functions of the skilled birth attendant

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- A-** Assist pregnant women and their families in making a birth plan.(where delivery will take place, who will be present)
- B-** Be prepared with core midwifery skills.
- C-** Communicate effectively cross culturally in order to be able to provide holistic women centered care. Cultivate effective IPR skills and an attitude of respect for the woman's right to be a full partner in the management.
- D-** Demonstrate first line management on identifying illness and conditions determined to health during pregnancy and make arrangement for effective referral.
- E-** Educate women and their families in self care during pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal period.
- F-** Foster woman's safety while performing vaginal examination and identifying outset of labour.
- G-** Give supportive care while monitoring maternal and fetal well being during labour.
- H-** Hasten appropriate action including referral on identifying maternal and fetal distress by plotting findings on the partograph.
- I-** Identify delayed progress in labour and take appropriate action including referral, where appropriate.
- J-** Justify midwifery skills in managing a normal delivery third stage of labour actively and administering immediate newborn care.
- K-** Knowledge of life threatening conditions in the newborn to be coupled with essential life saving measures including where necessary, active resuscitation as a component of the management of birth asphyxia and referral where appropriate.
- L-** Life saving skills in emergency obstetric care to identify hemorrhage and hypertension in labour and providing first line management with effective referral.

- M-** Management of prenatal care to women and their newborn infants and post abortion care where necessary.
- N-** Newborns to be exclusively breastfeed and women need to be assisted and educated along with their families and other helpers in maintaining successful breastfeeding.
- O-** Offers supervision of non skilled attendants including TBA's in order to ensure that the care they provide during pregnancy, childbirth and early postpartum period is of sound quality and ensure continuous training.
- P-** Provide advice on postpartum family planning and birth spacing.
- Q-** Quality data and collaborate data analyzer and case audits.
- R-** Responsibility and partnership with individual women to be shared along with members of the family and community for the care of women and newborns throughout pregnancy childbirth and postnatal period.
- S-** Skilled birth attendant working at the primary care levels in remote areas with limited access to facilities should also be able to do the following.
- T-** Transport to the place of referral, in case of an emergency.
- U-** Use vaccum extraction or forceps in vaginal deliveries.
- V-** Vaccum aspiration for management of incomplete abortion.
- W-** Where access to safe surgery is not available perform symphysiotomy for the management of obstructed labour.
- X-** Exact set of additional and advanced skills must be determined and agreed upon nationally depending on the need.
- Y-** Why should a skilled birth attendant not perform a caesarean section or administer antibiotics.
- Z-** Zip up the functions with zeal and zest and uses maximum potential in reducing maternal mortality.