

# COMPARISON OF EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS LEADING TO MATERNAL MORTALITY IN THE DISTRICTS OF NORTH CENTRAL PROVINCE DURING THE PERIOD OF 2008 – 2010

TRN Fernando\*, BGS Jayaratna and ECK Lankeshwara

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

\*[romaniefernando@gmail.com](mailto:romaniefernando@gmail.com)

## INTRODUCTION

According to the Annual report on family health in Sri Lanka 2006-2007, the maternal mortality ratio in 2006 was 39.3 per 100,000 live births. Other than maternal causes, external factors such as failure to seek medical care, institutional failures including lack of staff and equipment, and poor transport facilities contribute to maternal morbidity and mortality. This study is designed to compare the external contributory factors leading to maternal mortality in the districts of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa during the period of 2008 to 2010.

## METHODOLOGY

Study design: Data collection and analysis.

Data collection was carried out among registered pregnant mother in NCP from 2008 to 2010.

Data collected from the RDHS offices and hospitals of each districts.

Study was carried out from March of 2011 to May 2011.

## RESULTS

Table 1 : Eligible families per PHM

Year	Anuradhapura	Polonnaruwa
2008	616	572
2009	637	512
2010	640	512

**Table 2 : Number of pregnant mothers per PHM**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>Polonnaruwa</b>
2008	74	69
2009	73	64
2010	76	61

**Table 3 : Number of deliveries per each midwife in tertiary care**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>Polonnaruwa</b>
2008	1187	230
2009	1186	299
2010	1547	237

**Table 4 : Number of pregnant mothers per VOG**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>Polonnaruwa</b>
2008	7714	2071
2009	7709	2687
2010	7734	2135

**Table 5 : Available health care staff in tertiary health care centers in obstetrics wards**

<b>Staff</b>	<b>Anuradhapura</b>			<b>Polonnaruwa</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Number of VOGs	2	2	2	3	3	3
Number of Doctors	10	10	10	11	12	13
Number of Nurses	12	12	15	23	23	23
Number of Midwives	13	13	10	27	27	27
Number of Minor staff	7	8	7	10	10	10
Number of obstetric wards	2	2	2	2	2	2

**Table 6 : Total deliveries per doctor**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>Polonnaruwa</b>
2008	1543	565
2009	1542	672
2010	1547	493

**Table 7 : Home deliveries per 10,000 pregnancies**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>Polonnaruwa</b>
2008	29	13
2009	20	17
2010	09	11

**Table 8 : Availability of ambulance (functioning)**

<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>Polonnaruwa</b>
46	29

**Table 9 : Total maternal deaths per 100000 pregnancies**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>Polonnaruwa</b>
2008	51	56
2009	62	97
2010	65	76

## **CONCLUSION**

External contributory factors leading to maternal mortality in North Central province vary between two districts. Lower maternal mortality ratio is reported in Anuradhapura district than that of Polonnaruwa district, despite having comparatively low human and physical resources.

Limitations of this study: this study only compares the human resources available for maternity care and the available transport facilities in the health care in NCP. However the other external contributory factors such as failure to seek medical care by the woman, and unavailability of transport facilities (public transport, road access) were not measured.