

Assessing antenatal care service delivery and uptake of key interventions in Ghana



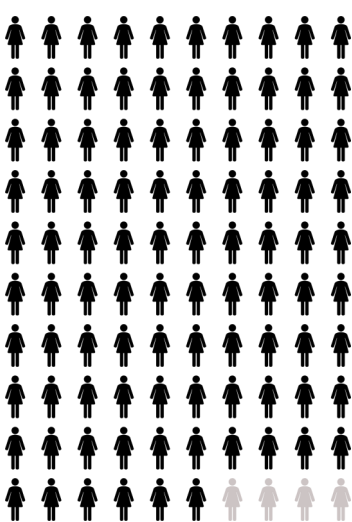
RESEARCH BRIEF

All pregnant women in Ghana can receive antenatal care for free, reducing mortality and morbidity. Our study assessed the coverage of antenatal care services in 4 hospitals in the Ashanti region of Ghana and the quality of implementation of the services. Data was collected from December 2015 to May 2016.

895 pregnant women were interviewed at 36 or more weeks of gestation, in addition to reviewing their maternal health records. Records keeping registers at the antenatal clinic (ANC) were reviewed at the ANC and compared with records captured on summary sheets sent to the District Health Administration and records captured at the district level.

Key findings:

There was relatively high uptake of key interventions for malaria among pregnant women



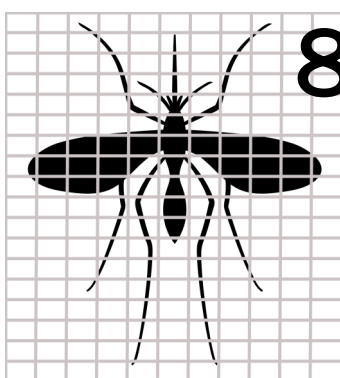
96%

of women received at least 1 dose of intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy with sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP-IPTp)



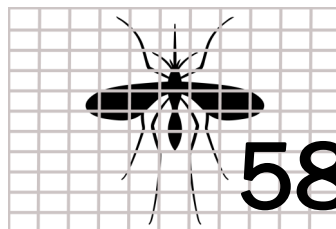
63%

of women received 3 or more doses of SP-IPTp



88%

88% of pregnant women owned insecticide-treated nets, but only 58% of women slept under one before the survey



58%

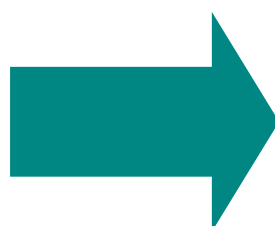
100%

of women received iron and folate supplements



Challenges were identified with records keeping

There were discrepancies between records kept in the ANC registers and those forwarded to the district



We recommend regular training is needed of new ANC staff

Regular supervision is advised by health information officers of the Ghana Health Service

