



NEWSLETTER FOR MIDWIVES



Strengthening National Midwifery Programme (SNMP) **Directorate General of Nursing and Midwifery**

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MIDWIVES ARE COMPLETE PACKAGE FOR RENDERING HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN ALL DOMAINS OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

In 2010 honorable prime minister's commitment to improve the scenario of maternal and child health in Bangladesh was the background of creation of new professional group in our country that is 'midwives'. With a strong determination to reduce maternal mortality rate and establish safe motherhood 'Midwifery Program' have been initiated in 38 Nursing Colleges and Nursing Institutes all over the country. All the possible steps have been taken to build up midwives with the highest level of capabilities to render high quality services in all areas of reproductive health.

To reach to our golden destination through co-operation, negotiation and collaboration among Government health system, and other International NGOs have initiated their activities all over the country. The aim is "No compromise in building the quality if Midwives." Midwives will build up their competency in each and every area of reproductive health. All the nursing colleges and institutes are taking care for the capacity building of the students to make them a complete package to act as the perfect choice as care provider for our mother, newborn and adolescents. Simultaneously they have been given knowledge both theoretically and practically gaining their confidence and competency by regular attachment at clinical sites under supervision of midwifery faculty, nursing instructors, gynecologist, professional bodies of DGNM, BNMC other representatives of NGOs. Day by day the midwives are becoming the place of assurance, place of confidence, place of safety for mothers and newborn.

One of the major challenges the midwives have been facing is the stoppage of the unnecessary cesarean section and motivate mothers to safe quality normal vaginal delivery. Now the midwives are confidently identifying the mothers who does not need unnecessary cesarean section and performing safe vaginal delivery autonomously. To reduce maternal mortality significantly they are identifying the high risk mothers much prior to the delivery and giving them necessary management or activating the appropriate referral system. They are keeping role also in reducing neonatal mortality rate by managing newborn properly and by doing perfect newborn resuscitation and perfect referral.

Some revolutionary changes have come in term of evidence based practices like respectful communication, no lithotomy positioned delivery, maintaining partograph, skin to skin. They are winning mothers heart at ante natal check -up corner by making excellent rapport with them and giving ANC autonomously. ANC visits are increasing in number day by day.

They are becoming more efficient in handling emergency maternal condition like PPH, Eclampsia by giving primary stabilization and appropriate referral. They are also involved in giving mother appropriate advice to take suitable postpartum family planning. During their 3 years of midwifery course they are regularly attached at their primary clinical site to other significant reproductive health areas like, Gender based Violence, VIA, Post Abortion Care to complete their competency as a complete package for rendering health care services necessary for our mother, newborn and adolescents.



Midwives provides service

So our midwives are becoming complete package who will dominate all the fields of Reproductive Health Area in terms of Ante Natal Checkup, Post Natal Checkup, Normal Vaginal Delivery, VIA, Postpartum Family planning, Gender Based Violence, Post Abortion Care and becoming place of assurance, confidence and relief for mothers. We are hopeful and we are counting on that we are going to reach our long cherished goal by the great capabilities of our confident midwives very soon.

নার্সিং ও মিডওয়াইফারির লাইসেন্স পরীক্ষার

দীর্ঘ ৩ বছর আইনি জটিলতার পর গত ২৯.০২.২০২০ তারিখে শেষ হলো নার্সিং ও মিডওয়াইফারির লাইসেন্স পরীক্ষার আবসান। যেখানে ২২৮৫ মিডওয়াইফ পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণ করে ২২১২ পাশ করেন। পরীক্ষা চলাকালীন বাংলাদেশ নার্সিং ও মিডওয়াইফারি কাউন্সিলের অধীনে কম্প্রিহেনসিভ লাইসেন্সিং পরীক্ষা কেন্দ্র পরিদর্শনে গিয়ে স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণমন্ত্রী জাহিদ মালেক বলেছেন, আগামী জুন মাসের মধ্যে ১০ হাজার নার্স ও ৫ হাজার মিডওয়াইফারি নার্স নিয়োগ দেওয়া হবে। প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনা ইতিমধ্যে এটি অনুমোদন দিয়েছেন। স্বাস্থ্যমন্ত্রী আরো বলেন, নার্সিং ও মিডওয়াইফারি অধিদপ্তরকে আরো শক্তিশালী করা হবে। নার্সদের দেশে-বিদেশে প্রশিক্ষণের ব্যবস্থা করা হবে। এ সময় স্বাস্থ্যমন্ত্রীর সঙ্গে উপস্থিত ছিলেন স্বাস্থ্য শিক্ষা বিভাগের সচিব আলী নূর, অতিরিক্ত সচিব (নার্সিং ও মিডওয়াইফারি) মোহাম্মদ শাহাদাত হোসেন, নার্সিং ও মিডওয়াইফারি অধিদপ্তরের মহাপরিচালক সিদ্দিকা আক্তার, অধিদপ্তরের পরিচালক (শিক্ষা) মোহাম্মদ আব্দুল হাই পিএএ, বাংলাদেশ নার্সিং কাউন্সিলের রেজিস্ট্রার সুরাইয়া বেগম প্রমুখ। এদিকে তিন বছর স্থগিত থাকা কম্প্রিহেনসিভ লাইসেন্সিং পরীক্ষা পুনরায় চালু হওয়ায় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনা ও স্বাস্থ্যমন্ত্রী জাহিদ মালেককে ধন্যবাদ জানিয়েছেন বাংলাদেশ নার্সেস অ্যাসোসিয়েশন (বিএনএ)।

Afghanistan midwifery association visit DGNM and Praised Midwives for life-saving work.

Newly developed Afghanistan Midwifery and Nursing Council team visited to Bangladesh in last January 2020 from 12-17 to observe the midwifery education and services in Bangladesh. As a part of their mission objectives they visited several organizations in Bangladesh including Directorate General of Nursing and Midwifery (DGNM), Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council (BNMC), Dhaka Nursing College, Dhaka, Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) and Bangladesh Midwifery Society (BMS). They were very much interested to understand the regulatory system of Nursing and Midwifery education and services in Bangladesh.

During the visit of different organization they were shared and exchanged a lot of information regarding pre-service midwifery education, environment of primary clinical site for the students, how BNMC supporting the midwives for licensing and online registration, DGNM for deployment & policy issues and developmental activity for the midwifery profession of midwifery association in Bangladesh including online voting, young leadership program and online educational platform for the in service midwives were the very much exciting and new experience for the visiting team.



Afghan Team visit Bangladesh

Improvement of Midwifery Institutional Education as an International Standard

Diploma in Midwifery Program is started in January 2013 and its curriculum is informed by the International Confederation of Midwives' (ICM) Standards for Education to prepare midwives to practice autonomously across the scope of midwifery practice. As the curriculum needs to update at regular intervals in terms of advanced medical technology, social needs, emerging health issues and innovative health care delivery systems of the country it was essential to revise the curriculum. Based on this concept BNMC has been revised diploma in Midwifery curriculum and syllabus with the technical support from national and international experts to update and incorporate new knowledge and maintain international standard of this educational program which has been implemented from January 2020 (Source: Revised Curriculum 2019). In addition to this looking forward, quality education of midwives by midwives, as well as a career path for midwifery has become a necessary. To achieve



Revised Curriculum

the potential of midwifery and the desired impact on maternal health, the education of a skilled midwife to international standards requires a skilled midwifery teacher as well as managers, administrators and researcher to continue the growth of the profession and also create an opportunity for the higher education for future midwives in Bangladesh developed B.Sc in Midwifery curriculum which has been approved by the MOH&FW in March 2020 (Source: B.Sc Curriculum). It is expected that the program will be started from 2021.

Ongoing Training of Trainers (ToT) development capacity of for midwives, Supervisors and Coordinator

Training on CPR

A two day's "Training Workshop of Work Place safety for DGNM and BNMC Employees which is organize by DGNM and support by UNFPA. Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation is the part of the emergency cardiac care system designed to save lives. It is an emergency procedure that uses chest compressions and artificial ventilation to help a person suffering from cardiac arrest recover. CPR is designed to support and maintain breathing and circulation until emergency medical personnel arrive and take over. This is perhaps the biggest benefit of giving employees proper CPR training.



Participants are demonstrating in Training

The techniques they learn can be used just about anywhere. Employers should feel proud and happy knowing that their workers are capable of helping others around them in times of emergency. The training programme was conducted by the Sujon Das, Master trainer, American Safety & Health Institute, Dhaka. Total 120 Office staffs from DGNM and BNMC have participated the training.

Training on TOT

To introduce the reporting system in DHIS-2 to the Divisional Assistant Director, District public health nurses (DPHN), District public health midwives (DPHM) and statisticians. The approved data collection format has been presented to the participants through this training. A particular session has been held for an elaborate discussion on reporting system. After this a sample register book was showed to them to get the preferred suggestion on different parts. The participants rendered their valuable comments to it. So it can be hoped that the register book would be much effective as per to their expectations. After this session a short discussion was held about existing data collection system through google sheet from midwives. To ensure the fullest effectiveness of this programme a separate practical session was arranged where the participants got the chance to apply their knowledge gathered from this training to be practiced through using the training server to enter the data into DHIS-2 and after that they viewed that data into reporting format.



Jismin Khatun's memorable moment as a midwife

Since my graduation in 2018 as a midwife, I am passionate, enjoyed and dedicated to provide services to save mothers and newborn life.

I can recall one of my memorable day in my short career life as midwife. I was on duty. A pregnant mother came to our facility with active convulsion. This mother was 5th gravida with full term pg. I received the mother and called for help, checked and recorded high blood pressure. I opened I/V channel. Another midwife put catheter, checks patella reflexes & respiration.

I gave the mother Mgso4 loading dose. Within 10 min of giving the loading dose convulsion got under control. She was in labor. At the mean time I consulted with the doctor to refer the mother to nearby higher health facility for the fear of further complication. But mother and relatives denied to go elsewhere and told me “dear pink sister” don't refer to other facility, we belief you and depend you, we want to deliver by your hand. Even they gave written consent that they want to deliver in our facility. But I was always making her and her family members understand the risks we might face if anything goes wrong. But they still denied to get referred. Finally, I conducted the delivery with confident and gift the mother a healthy baby.



I can't forget that moment that I saw happy tears on the mother and relative's eyes. They prayed for me for my wellbeing. Even when they went home, mother keep contact with me over phone. They also refer other mother in our facility saying that Pink sister will give respect and skilled care. We all midwives in Bangladesh feel proud to be midwives as frontline care providers to save the mothers and newborns life's.

Jismin Khatun

Midwives' supervisor

UNFPA supported project, RTMI

Cox's Bazar Rohingya support center

