The Lancet Maternal Health Series

Every woman, every newborn, everywhere has the right to good quality care

Too little, too late: when women receive care that is insufficient, or not timely

Too much, too soon: marked by over medicalisation and excessive use of unnecessary interventions

In four of seven sub-Saharan African countries studied, two-thirds of facility births were in sites that lacked basic infrastructure, like water or electricity.

In 2010, an estimated 1-1.3 million caesarean sections were needed but not performed in low-income countries.

In some countries an episiotomy rate of 92% was measured: this practice should not be routine.

In 2010, an estimated 3.5–5.7 million unnecessary caesarean sections were performed in high- and middle-income countries.

Growing numbers of low- and middle-income countries now straddle two extremes. It is critical to find the right balance to improve global maternal health.

References

www.maternalhealthseries.org
#MaternalHealthNow