

Perinatal Death Auditing is Necessary to Identify Preventable Perinatal Deaths

Perinatal Mortality rate (PMR) of India remains stable at 26 per 1000 births (for the year 2013) mainly because of slower reduction in early neonatal deaths.^[1-3] Problems with infrastructure and quality of care for the newborn in India have been reported.^[4] It stands to reason that improvements in infrastructure and quality of care would reduce the magnitude of perinatal deaths implying that some perinatal deaths are preventable. Government of India launched the “India Newborn Action Plan” under the National Health Mission in 2014, which envisages to reduce the neonatal death and stillbirth rates to single digits by the year 2030.^[5] India Newborn Action Plan seeks to improve the infrastructure and quality of care.^[5] Unfortunately this would not be enough. To identify preventable perinatal deaths, it is necessary to have perinatal death auditing.^[6] Such a system would identify and reduce preventable perinatal deaths. This would result in achieving the goal that India new born action plan seeks to accomplish.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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