

3D Display of Stillbirth in Indonesian obstetrics Part 1: Birth Weight, Complications, and Morbidity

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Introduction

Feedback from Maternity Care Monitoring (MCM) at obstetrical centers in developing countries (1) showed a barrier of communication to exist between statistical and medical professions. In order to maximize appropriate use of standard computer outputs (SCO's), tables of incidence or prevalence may be rendered in the third dimension (3D). This "3D feedback" illustrates patterns of risk of stillbirth by (a) birth weight, (b) complication of delivery, and (c) maternal morbidity (ICD-9).

Material and Method

SCO's from the MCM-library of the Indonesian departments of obstetrics & gynecology are the only source of this report. The three figures were developed from secondary calculations by using isometric paper and the background information is programmed into the figures.

Results

For the selected controls, prolonged/obstructed labor emerges as key determinant of stillbirth (SB) with a center prevalence of 10.0% (3682/36763) and an associated risk of SB of 144.8/1000 - a relative risk (RR) of

5.28 against infants born to women without complication. The RR attains 13.73 for the most prevalent birth weight class (3000-3499 g) - associated with a "base risk" of 8.5/1000 for women with no complication (Fig. 1). For healthy women and anemic women without hemorrhage, the RRs are around 8.00 (Fig. 3). The second most important determinant of SB is hemorrhage with a "peak risk" of 717.6/1000 for placenta abruptio and a center prevalence of 0.71% (262/36763) (Fig. 1). The lowest "base risk" of 7.3/1000 applies to birth weights of 3000-3499 grams among healthy women, but rises 34-fold to 248.5/1000 for women with hemorrhage per vagina (Fig. 2). The "SB risk chain" across maternal morbidity for women with no complication is very informative: 7.7-144.2 (Fig. 3).

Deduction and Analytical Implication

The SB patterns point to a weak referral system - incompatible with modern primary health care (PHC). The next step is to control for type of admission (part 2).

Reference

- BERNARD RP.: Maternity Care Monitoring: A new opportunity in service statistics. Pop. Reports, J-17, J. Hopk. Univ., Baltimore, pp 338-339 (1977)



