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What is the condition of midwives in villages?

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Statement of the Problem: Many cases of mother's mortality in villages focus attention on the village midwives' performance. This study is meant to capture the activities of village midwives and their condition in villages.

Method: Qualitative study with ethnography approach was used in this study. Participants were selected purposively. Data collecting was done from April to October 2016 through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), thorough interviews and observation. 77 midwives were involved in FGD, 39 midwives and 24 villagers were involved in thorough interviews, and 3 villages were observed. Data verification was carried out using triangulation method.

Findings: This study revealed the geographic and community condition in villages, the cycle of tidal water affecting the villagers' activities, the process plots of references together with the obstacles and potential dangers which might be faced by midwives in villages.

Conclusion & significance: Many factors contribute to the increase of mother's mortality in rural villages. Blaming on the village midwives without comprehending the roots of the problems is not a wise solution because a decrease of mother's mortality is not merely the village midwives' responsibility.





Biography

Haryati Astuti is working at Midwifery Academy of Husada Gemilang Tembilahan. She started her career as a Nurse in 1999 and decided to continue studying in 2002. She has completed her Master's degree in Reproductive Health at Health Institute of Hang Tuah Pekanbaru, Riau. Her research interests include "Sexual reproduction, village midwifery, and immunization". She has published papers in six journals nationally and internationally.

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