

Figure 1.7

Conceptual framework for maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity

This conceptual framework on the causes of maternal and newborn deaths illustrates that health outcomes are determined by interrelated factors, encompassing nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, health-care services and healthy behaviours, and disease control, among others. These factors are defined as proximate (individual), underlying (household, community and district) and basic (societal). Factors at one level influence other levels. The framework is devised to be useful in assessing and analysing the causes of maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, and in planning effective actions to enhance maternal and neonatal health.

