

# Safe Motherhood Library

## General Women's Health

**World Health Organization. *Women's Health: Improve our Health, Improve the World. A position paper for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China. Document WHO/FHE/95.8.***

Prepared for the Fourth World Conference in Beijing in 1995, this paper outlines the reasons why women's health is important and the range of factors that affect women's health. It also considers the major health problems and issues that affect women, and finally explores the role of WHO in women's health.

**Tinker A, Daly P, Greene C, Saxenian H, Lakshminarayanan R, Gill K. *Women's Health and Nutrition: Making a Difference. Washington DC: World Bank, 1994.***

This is a comprehensive presentation of women's health from pre-birth to old age. It is well documented and explains the relationship between women's health and socio-economic development. It also includes summary appendices of recommended cost-effective interventions for women's health at each stage of the life cycle and indicators to monitor progress.

**Arkutu AA. *Healthy Women, Healthy Mothers: An Information Guide (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York: Family Care International, 1995.***

This book serves as a resource for health workers and provides complete and accurate information on women's health needs and problems. It is written in simple, accessible language and includes many illustrations so that it can be used in communities to share information about women's health, reproduction and child-bearing.

## Health and Human Rights

**Cook RJ. *Women's Health and Human Rights: The Promotion and Protection of Women's Health Through International Human Rights Law. WHO: Geneva, 1994.* French and Spanish translations in preparation.**

Written by a human rights lawyer, this book explores the implications of international human rights treaties on improving the health of women. Also discussed, are methods by which these treaties can be used to catalyze action among concurring governments. This is an excellent summary of all the relevant international statements that offer guidance concerning fundamental human rights related to health care for women

**Alcala M. *Commitments to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for All: Framework for Action*. New York: Family Care International, 1995.**

This user-friendly document provides a comprehensive check-list of governmental commitments to reproductive health and rights, made in agreements reached at Beijing, Cairo, Copenhagen and Vienna conferences. It is a reference tool to be used in implementation of these commitments -- through developing and revising relevant policies, laws and programmes; advocacy and awareness-raising; monitoring and follow-up. This document is available in English, Spanish and French.

**International Planned Parenthood Federation. *IPPF Charter on Sexual and Reproductive Rights*. London: IPPF, 1996.**

This booklet sets out the ethical framework for IPPF's activities, in the form of a Charter outlining 12 essential sexual and reproductive health rights. In the first section, it interprets the charter rights within the context of IPPF's mission, and in the "Standards" section, it contains excerpts from relevant international human rights instruments.

**Sen G, Germaine A, and Chen L. (eds.) *Population Policies Reconsidered: Health, Empowerment, and Rights*. Boston: Cambridge University Press, 1994.**

This collection of essays by a diverse group of scholars, social activists, and policy makers critically re-examines population policies and family planning from a rights-based perspective.

## **Reduction of maternal and neonatal mortality**

**Anne Tinker, Marjorie A. Koblinsky with contributions from Patricia Daly... [et al]. *Making Motherhood Safe*. The World Bank Discussion Papers, 202. 1993.** Also available in French.

This paper aims at assisting policy makers and programme managers to design and implement programmes to reduce maternal mortality. It discusses the lessons for reducing maternal mortality derived from evidence and research in both developing and industrial countries. It also recommends priorities and programme strategies for making family planning services and maternal health care more effective by improving quality, increasing access, and educating the public about the importance of such services.

**World Health Organization. *Mother-Baby Package: Implementing safe motherhood in countries.* Document WHO/FHE/MSM/94.11.** Also available in French.

This document describes a strategy for reducing maternal and neonatal mortality in developing countries. It focuses on the five main causes of maternal mortality and the two main causes of neonatal mortality and describes interventions to be applied at each level of the health care system. Guidelines are provided for implementation and information on supplies, essential drugs, instrument kits needed at each level and their costs can be found in the technical supplement.

**Maine D. *Safe Motherhood Programs: Options and Issues.* New York: Center for Population and Family Health, Columbia University, 1991.** Also available in French.

In this chartbook, the potential effectiveness of various strategies for reducing maternal deaths in developing countries are explored. Based on the findings of this analysis of the literature, a general strategy is proposed. The first priority is to ensure access to medical treatment for obstetric emergencies. Key activities in this project are upgrading existing facilities and staff, and informing the community about danger signs during pregnancy and during and after delivery. The publication also includes a preliminary cost-effectiveness analysis.

***Programme Advisory Note. Reducing Maternal Mortality and Morbidity.* UNFPA. Document ISBN:0-89714-483-X.**

This Programme Advisory Note provides practical information, based on evaluation and research activities, to guide UNFPA and other interested parties in the implementation of programmes to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity. It highlights actions at the various levels, i.e. family, community and societal actions, legislative and policy actions, health-sector actions, actions for health planners and managers, as well as specific actions for UNFPA in building health-sector capacity to reduce maternal mortality.

**The Safe Motherhood Inter-Agency Group. *The Safe Motherhood Action Agenda: Priorities for the Next Decade.* Conference Report prepared by Ann Starrs, Family Care International. 1998.**

This is a report on the Safe Motherhood Initiative Technical Consultation held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 18-23 October, 1997. The report articulates and presents programmatic lessons learned from the Initiative's first decade, and identifies clear priorities and strategies for the future towards improving maternal health.

**Ross SR, *Promoting Safe Maternal and Newborn Care: A Reference Manual for Program Managers*. Atlanta: CARE, 1999.** [Under publication in English, French and Spanish.]

The aim of this document is to serve as a technical reference that summarizes the latest literature and lessons learned in safe motherhood initiatives, in a user-friendly format for policy-makers, programmers and field staff. It provides programming and monitoring information, as well as sections on current best practices and country examples.

**Health Section, Programme Division. *Programming for Safe Motherhood*. UNICEF, 1999.**  
(Under Publication with translations in French and Spanish)

This document will serve as a technical guideline for UNICEF staff as well as health planners, policymakers and partners in implementing safe motherhood programmes. It emphasises UNICEF's view of maternal mortality as a social problem that requires a multisectoral effort to integrate planning and implementation of interventions for improving maternal and newborn survival and health. The document provides guidance on monitoring and evaluation of the various interventions and includes country examples of successful interventions.

### **Midwifery**

**Marshal AM, Buffington ST. *Life-Saving Skills Manual for Midwives*. Washington, D.C.: American College of Nurse Midwives, 1991.**

This manual provides midwives working in primary rural and isolated practical settings with the knowledge and skills needed to perform life-saving techniques. It was developed as a continuing education resource for practicing midwives, and for tutors and students in midwifery education programs. Learning modules include prevention and treatment of anemia and pregnancy-induced hypertension, monitoring labor progress, episiotomies and repair of lacerations, prevention and treatment of hemorrhage, resuscitation, prevention and management of sepsis, hydration and rehydration, vacuum extraction, and symphysiotomy.

**Feuerstein M. *Turning the Tide: Safe Motherhood, A District Action Manual*. London: Macmillan Press, 1993.**

Written in clear and straightforward language, this book is designed for frontline planners, managers, and practitioners working at the district level. It emphasizes the importance of strengthening the district first referral level hospitals and health centres, and linking them with community-base networks for maternal care.

**Murray SF (Ed.). *Baby Friendly/Mother Friendly: International Perspectives on Midwifery.* London: Mosby, 1996.**

This volume explores the role of the midwife in the provision of high-quality maternity care in both industrialized and developing countries. The collection uses a variety of rich case studies to illustrate the midwife's role in the promotion and support of breastfeeding, and in attending to the needs of the mother.

**Murray SF (Ed.). *Midwives and Safer Motherhood: International Perspectives on Midwifery.* London: Mosby, 1996.**

This companion volume to *Baby Friendly/Mother Friendly* provides insight into the ways in which midwives may be involved in the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity. It explores research in safer motherhood, midwives' changing roles, midwifery education and the midwifery profession internationally.

**World Health Organization. *Education Material for Teachers of Midwifery.* Geneva, 1996.**

This is a set of five training manuals aimed at equipping midwives with life saving skills and were widely field tested in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific prior to finalization. The manuals aim to communicate in an imaginative way the sound knowledge that midwives need in order to think critically, make the right decisions, and apply the appropriate clinical skills, particularly in life-and-death emergencies.

### **Communication for Safe Motherhood**

**Inter-Agency Group for Safe Motherhood. *Safe Motherhood Action Messages: Fact Sheets.* New York: FCI, 1998.** Also available in French and Spanish.

This series of fact sheets provides concise information about maternal mortality and priority areas for intervention. Two sets are available -- although they are both very user-friendly, one set is written in less technical language.

**Berer M. *Women's Groups, NGOs, and Safe Motherhood.* Geneva: WHO, 1993.**

This document describes a number of activities undertaken by women's groups and other NGOs to prevent maternal and morbidity within the broader context of reproductive health. The activities profiled include community based-research, the development of IEC materials, media campaigns, provision of health services, and the organization of local, regional, and international events such as meetings and workshops.

**Starrs AM, Rizzuto RR. *Getting the Message Out: Designing an Information Campaign on Women's Health*. New York: Family Care International, 1995.**

This booklet offers step-by-step guidelines on how to design, implement, and evaluate an effective community-level information campaign to improve women's reproductive health. Special emphasis is placed on safe motherhood issues.

**World Health Organization. *The Healthy Women Counselling Guide. Demonstration Package*. WHO, 1997.**

This package includes the Healthy Women Counselling Guides (HWCG) from 3 African countries: Kenya, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone, audio-cassettes of radio programmes and illustrated materials. The guide is aimed at policy makers, NGOs, researchers, health workers, and communicators who may be interested in working together on a HWCG project. It discusses the challenges of reaching women with health information, discusses factors affecting women's health in 3 African countries and identifies constraints and details positive interventions.

**World Health Organization. *Communicating Family Planning in Reproductive Health: Key Messages for Communicators*. Document WHO/FRH/FPP/97.33**

Communicating the benefits of family planning to individuals, communities, and policy makers is the first step in making services more accessible. This booklet synthesizes the lessons learned from years of research and experience in implementing family planning programmes around the world. These key messages and the information that supports them can be used to help stimulate discussion and develop effective communication strategies.

### **Clinical Guidelines & Technical Working Group Reports**

**Enkin M, Keirse MJNC, Chalmers I. *A Guide to Effective Care in Pregnancy and Childbirth*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989.**

This book is the condensed version of a comprehensive 1500-page study of the effects of care given and received during pregnancy. While its content is quite technical, it is presented in a readable, concise format and is a good reference book for professionals involved in maternity care, policymakers and planners, and pregnant women. It contains useful charts that, on the balance of evidence, outlines recommended procedures, indicating those that need more research and those that should be abandoned.

**World Health Organization. *Care in Normal Birth. A practice Guide. Document WHO/FRH/MSM/96.24.***

This guide establishes universal guidelines for the routine care of women during uncomplicated labour and childbirth. It reflects the international consensus of safe motherhood experts on the most care effective practices for normal births, based on a critical review of what considerable research has to say about the effectiveness and safety of 59 common procedures and practices.

**Rooney C. *Antenatal Care and Maternal Health: How Effective Is It? A Review of the Evidence. Document WHO/MSM/92.4.*** Also available in French.

This is a critical review of scientific evidence that can help determine whether specific antenatal interventions are effective in reducing maternal mortality and morbidity in developing countries. The study aims to distinguish interventions of proven efficacy from those whose potential value awaits confirmation.

**World Health Organization. *Antenatal Care: A report of a Technical Working Group. Document WHO/FRH/MSM/96.8***

This report presents a comprehensive review of current antenatal care practices and the basic equipment, procedures and supplies used to provide care from the point of view of cost, maintenance, validity and skills required to employ them. Based on this review, the report makes recommendations for the identification of high-risk pregnancies and their management.

**World Health Organization. *Detecting Pre-eclampsia: a practical guide. Document WHO/MCH/MSM/92.3.***

The chief aim of this booklet is to provide instructions for health workers that will help them in identifying early signs and symptoms of complications and pre-eclampsia. It includes guidelines for accurately measuring blood pressure, detecting when blood pressure equipment is faulty and taking correctional action, measuring proteinuria, and assessing oedema.

**World Health Organization. *Obstetric and Contraceptive Surgery at the District Hospital: a practical guide. Document WHO/MCH/MSM/92.8.*** Also available in French.

This document provides guidance to non-specialist doctors providing obstetric and contraceptive surgery and describes the anaesthetic services necessary in small hospitals. The guide describes obstetric procedures considered essential for treating the major complications of pregnancy and childbirth as well as procedures for female sterilization and insertion and removal of intrauterine devices.

**World Health Organization. *Essential Elements of Obstetric Care at the First Referral Level.* Geneva. WHO, 1991.** Also available in French.

This concise and easy to read book contains a wealth of information on the indications, level of skill, and facilities required for a wide range of basic and emergency obstetric care functions. Practical details of supply and pharmaceutical needs for Emergency Obstetric Care are also included. The information is essential for needs assessment and program planning.

**World Health Organization. *Maternity Waiting Homes. A review of experience.* Document WHO/RHT/MSM/96.21**

This report suggests that maternity waiting homes could be an alternative low-cost solution to the problem of poor access to maternal care. It provides information on the history, purpose and crucial elements of maternity waiting homes and presents cases studies from Africa, South America and the Caribbean.

**World Health Organization. *Postpartum care of the mother and newborn: a practical guide.* Document WHO/FHE/MSM/98.3**

This document responds to a long-felt need for state-of-the-art information for this critical but under-researched and under-served period of the life of the woman and her newborn. It provides a comprehensive view of maternal and newborn needs at a time which is decisive for their life and health. It examines the major maternal and neonatal health challenges, nutrition and breastfeeding, birth spacing, immunization and HIV/AIDS before concluding with a discussion of the crucial elements of care and service in the postpartum period.

**World Health Organization. *Care of the Umbilical Cord: A review of the evidence.* Document WHO/RHT/MSM/98.4**

Clean cord care at birth and in the days following birth is effective in preventing cord infections and neonatal tetanus. In this document, WHO makes recommendations on clean cord care that are applicable both for home deliveries and institutional deliveries and outlines areas for future research.

**World Health Organization. *Essential Newborn Care. Report of a Technical Working Group.* Document WHO/FRH/MSM/96.13**

This report summarizes the discussions of the Technical Working Group on elements of essential newborn care at home, health centre and hospital. It presents simple and effective interventions for ensuring a live-born infant, that are available and at all three levels of care.



**World Health Organization. *Basic newborn resuscitation: a practical guide* (TWG Report). Document WHO/FRH/MSM/98.1**

This practical guide explains a simple method of newborn resuscitation capable, when carried out quickly and correctly, of reviving more than three-quarters of infants who do not breathe at birth. The document aims to give decision-makers - whether responsible for national programmes or in charge of local facilities - all the information needed to introduce the method and understand what it will require in terms of policies, training, equipment and supplies.

**World Health Organization. *Thermal Protection of the Newborn: a practical guide* (TWG Report). Document WHO/FRH/MSM/97.2. Also available in French.**

This is an illustrated guide that reflects the consensus reached by an international group of experts on prevention and management of hypothermia in newborn babies. It aims to increase awareness of the severe risks posed by hypothermia while also giving health workers the practical knowledge needed to take appropriate action, whether to prevent hypothermia in the first place or to save an endangered life.

**World Health Organization. *Management of the Sick Newborn. Report of a technical working group*. Document WHO/FH/MSM/96.12**

This is a report of a Technical Working Group meeting that reviewed the technical soundness and feasibility of interventions for the first week of life. It describes, in a user-friendly and simple manner, the most common newborn illnesses, danger signs for mothers/families and health workers to be aware of, assessment criteria, and recommends appropriate treatment at the health centre.

**World Health Organization. *Care of Mother and Baby at the Health Centre: a practical guide*. Document WHO/FHE/MSM/94.2.**

This document defines the essential functions, tasks, and skills needed for the comprehensive care of mothers and babies at the first referral level. Both normal care and life-saving emergency procedures are covered. The integration of midwifery services through referral and support systems is also described. The report presents a series of recommendations designed to assist health planners and programme managers in efforts to improve access to health and to decentralize maternal and newborn health care.

## **Situation Analysis. Monitoring and Evaluation**

**World Health Organization, Family and Health Section. *Safe Motherhood Needs Assessment*. Geneva: WHO, 1996.**

This needs assessment package focuses on systems operations and service delivery. It is highly recommended for preparation of projects designed to upgrade district hospitals and health centers. It can be used nationally or regionally. Although it comes as a complete package, careful qualitative, translation and back-translation work must be done ahead of time to make sure that questions are understood and worded appropriately.

**UNICEF/WHO/UNFPA. *The Sisterhood Method for Estimating Maternal Mortality: Guidance Notes for Potential Users*. New York: UNICEF, 1998.**

This is a report of a meeting held in 1998 and describes the constraints and advantages of using the sisterhood method to estimate maternal mortality.

**WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA *Guidelines for Monitoring the Availability and Use of Obstetric Services*. UNICEF, 1997.**

These Guidelines discuss two approaches to monitoring progress towards reduction of maternal mortality. It describes the constraints in using the conventional method of monitoring the level of maternal mortality using indicators such as maternal mortality rates and ratios. The guidelines recommends an alternative approach based on monitoring the processes or interventions aimed at reducing maternal mortality and presents a series of process indicators that assess the availability, use and quality of obstetric services along with guidance on data collection and interpretation.

**Stephenson P. *Qualitative Research in Women's Health. A Critical Appraisal of Proposals*. New York: UNICEF, 1998.**

This document describes various approaches to qualitative research and outlines the issues that should be addressed in proposals for UNICEF country office support. Examples illustrate how qualitative approaches can be used in health systems research in developing countries.

**World Health Organization. *Progress in Human Reproductive Research. Selecting indicators for monitoring reproductive health*. Document WHO/RHT/HRP/98.45.**

This issue of *Progress* focusses on reproductive health indicators, describes the criteria for selecting indicators, and recommends a minimal list of 15 indicators.

**World Health Organization. *Selecting Reproductive Health Indicators: a guide for district managers*. Document WHO/RHT/HRP/97.25**

This guide take the district manager through the process of selecting appropriate indicators to review and improve current services, integrate existing services, and develop new services in the area of reproductive health.

**World Health Organization. *Reproductive Health Indicators for Global Monitoring: Report of an interagency technical meeting*. Document WHO/RHT/HRP/97.27**

This report of the Working Group on Reproductive Health includes: a review of country experiences in strengthening health information systems for monitoring reproductive health, UNICEF experience in monitoring the World Summit Goals for Children and lessons learned by WHO in evaluating progress towards Health for All. The group reached consensus on 15 reproductive health indicators for the purpose of global monitoring

**Maine D, Akalin MZ, Ward VM, Kamara A. *The Design and Evaluation of Maternal Mortality Programs*. New York: Columbia University, 1997.**

This is a technical manual developed with UNDP, outlining strategies used by the Prevention of Maternal Mortality Network (PMM). It provides guidance and tools for the design and evaluation of maternal mortality programs, and emphasizes collaboration and capacity-building.

**Campbell O. *Lessons Learnt: A decade of measuring impact of safe motherhood programmes*. London: London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 1997.**

This booklet briefly describes the insights gained by the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in measuring the change in maternal mortality and morbidity resulting from a decade of programme efforts in Safe Motherhood.

## **Nutrition**

**Gillespie S. *Improving Adolescent and Maternal Nutrition: An Overview of Benefits and Options*. New York: UNICEF, 1997.**

This paper considers the problem and consequences of adolescent and maternal malnutrition with respect to pregnancy and its outcomes for both mother and child. It also reviews experiences with different approaches for improving nutrition, and discusses a number of key options for action.

**Engle P, Lhotska L, Armstrong H. *The Care Initiative. Assessment, Analysis and Action to Improve Care for Nutrition.* New York, UNICEF, 1997.**

This document provides community members, UNICEF programme staff and government counterparts the means of assessing existing care practices at the household level, and analysing the resources and structures which determine them. Its ultimate aim is to facilitate, with full participation of women caregivers, the planning of action for improved care for nutrition.

**Rebecca J. Stoltzfus, Michele L. Drefuss. *Guidelines for the use of iron supplementation to prevent and treat iron deficiency anemia.* INACG/WHO/UNICEF 1998.**

This booklet provides guidance to public health planners and managers on controlling iron deficiency anaemia. The main focus of the guideline is on iron supplementation programmes and parasite control, but it also acknowledges the beneficial role that food fortification and dietary diversification can play in controlling iron deficiency anaemia.

**World Health Organization. *WHO and the Micronutrient Initiative. Safe Vitamin A dosage during pregnancy and lactation. Recommendations and report of a consultation. Document WHO/NUT/98.4.***

This report gives an overview of what is known about needs for Vitamin A among pregnant women and their fetuses and among lactating women and their nursing women. It provides guidance on the safe use of Vitamin A supplements for women during pregnancy and the first six months after delivery and for infants under six months of age as well as the relevant programmatic and policy implications.

## **Adolescents and Young People**

**UNICEF. *Youth Health - For a Change: Notebook on programming for young people's health and development.* 1997.** Being translated in French, Spanish and Arabic.

This programming notebook outlines a framework for programming to improve and maintain the health and development of young people, to highlight key programme elements and principles, and provide UNICEF offices and partners with approaches on programming for young people. It also provides references to other resources, organisations, people and materials that are available to support the acceleration of national programme efforts.

**UNICEF/World Health Organization. *A picture of Health*. 1995.**

This review brings together information from a wide range of sources to provide a comprehensive picture of what is known and not known about the health of young people aged 10-24 years in developing countries. It includes an annotated bibliography of 43 key publications on young people's health. It is an important reference for prioritizing actions to improve the health and development of this age group.

**Mensch, Barbara S. Judith Bruce, Margaret E. Greene. *The Unchartered Passage: Girls' Adolescence in the Developing World*. Population Council, 1998.**

This monograph focusses on the needs of adolescent girls in developing countries, presenting illustrative statistics and examines their lives in a socio-economic context. The authors call for increased attention and investment in this area, and outline an agenda for policy, programmes, and research to improve the lives of adolescent girls.

## **Family Planning**

**Network, Family Health International, Vol. 17 No.4, 1997. *Reproductive Health after Pregnancy*.** Also available in French and Spanish.

This issue of FHI's quarterly newsletter focusses on the important needs of a woman following pregnancy – care for her newborn, her own need to recover from pregnancy and delivery, her need to space or limit her childbearing in order to protect her own health and that of her infant.

**Network, Family Health International, Vol. 19 No.1, 1998. *Improving Service Quality*.** Also available in French and Spanish.

This issue of FHI's newsletter focusses on the need to improve the quality of family planning services through "a client perspective".

**World Health Organization. *Improving Access to Quality Care in Family Planning: Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use*. Document WHO/FRH/FP/96.9.**

This document provides state-of-the-art and evidence-based information on medical eligibility criteria for selection of contraceptive methods. It places family planning in the context of human rights (CEDAW articles 10, 12, 14 and 16) and is an important step in improving access to high quality family planning information and services.

**Hatcher RA, Rinehart W, Blackburn R, Geller JS and Shelton JD. *The Essentials of Contraceptive Technology*. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, Population Information Program, 1997.**

This handbook has been prepared by JHU in collaboration with WHO and USAID. It aims at providing state-of-the-art information on family planning methods and uses a simple, client-centred approach. It helps health care providers give their clients appropriate information and advice on method use and other reproductive health concerns, enabling men and women to make informed choices while safeguarding them against avoidable negative health effects.

## **Sexually Transmitted Diseases**

**Gina Dallabetta, Marie Laga, Peter Lamptey. *Control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases: A Handbook for the Design and Management of Programs*. AIDSCAP. Family Health International.**

This handbook is a valuable tool in guiding funding decisions, training, service design and delivery, and community education on programmes for control of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in resource-poor settings. The handbook recommends integration of behavioural and biomedical approaches including curative treatment to prevent and control STDs.

**World Health Organization. *Management of Sexually Transmitted Diseases*. WHO/GPA/TEM/94.1**

This document contains WHO recommendations for the comprehensive management of patients with STD within the broader context of control, prevention and care programmes for STD and HIV infection. The document also provides information on the notification and management of sexual partners, and on STDs in children.

## **HIV/AIDS**

**UNICEF. *The Prescriber. HIV/AIDS: Prevention, treatment and care. Numbers 16 & 17, September 1998.***

This issue of the Prescriber focusses on the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS which has now become one of the top 10 killers in the world. This issue briefly describes the disease and its transmission, its impact on young people and children, suggests actions for health workers to prevent and treat HIV actions, and lists WHO recommended dosages/treatment of STDs and HIV-related diseases.

***HIV and Infant Feeding: Guidelines for decision-makers. Document WHO/FRH/NUT/CHD/98.1, UNAIDS/98.3, UNICEF/PD/NUT/(J)98-1.***

These guidelines provide state-of-the-art information on what is known about HIV transmission through breastmilk, identify and discuss issues to be addressed by decision-makers, and outline steps to implement an infant-feeding policy including monitoring and evaluation aspects.

***HIV and Infant Feeding: a guide for health care managers and supervisors. WHO/FRH/NUT/CHD/98.2, UNAIDS/98.4, UNICEF/PD/NUT/(J)98-2.***

This guide provides an overview of mother-to-child transmission, discusses feeding options for HIV-positive women, and describes practical steps for implementing services. It also includes information on voluntary and confidential HIV counselling and testing, antiretroviral therapy, breastfeeding and distribution of breast-milk substitutes.

**Long LD, Ankrah EM. *Women's Experiences with HIV/AIDS -- An International Perspective.* New York: Columbia University Press, 1997.**

This book examines the experiences of women from diverse cultures and backgrounds in the context of the socio-economic and cultural factors that facilitate HIV infection. By combining international research data with personal accounts of women's experiences worldwide, the authors explore these complex factors to define a cohesive policy agenda and plan for action.

**Preble EA, Elias EJ, and Winikoff B. "*Maternal health in the Age of AIDS: implications for health services in developing countries*". AIDS CARE, Vol. 6. No. 5. 1994.**

This journal article provides an overview of both the technical and service-related issues which intersect the MCH and HIV/AIDS fields. The ways in which HIV/AIDS can have an impact on fertility regulation, pregnancy, delivery, and the postpartum period are discussed.

**KIT, SAFAIDS, World Health Organization. *Facing the Challenges of HIV/AIDS and STDs: a gender-based response.* Geneva: WHO, 1995.**

This resource pack aims to help policy-makers, programme planners and implementers and service providers in developing a gender-based approach to HIV/AIDS and STDs. A booklet, that is included in the pack, outlines the global epidemiology of HIV infection, explores the basis of a gender-based response, and suggests suitable strategies for such a response. Also included are tool cards and posters designed to promote gender awareness in relation to HIV/AIDS and STDs among men, women and youth.

**Dixon-Mueller R, Wasserheit JN. *The Culture of Silence: Reproductive Tract Infections Among Women in the Third World.* New York: International Women's Health Coalition, 1991.**

This pamphlet addresses the problem and scope of reproductive tract infections and has been important in bringing the issue to public attention.

**Germain A, Holmes KK, Piot P, Wasserheit JN. *Reproductive Tract Infections: Global Impact and Priorities for Women's Reproductive Health.* New York: Plenum Press, 1992.**

This collection of papers provides an overview of RTIs outlining the challenges for international policy, programs and research and current and future dimensions of the problem in the third world. It covers programmatic issues and actions required at various levels.

## **Sexual and Gender Violence**

**World Health Organization. *Female Genital Mutilation A Joint WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Statement.* Geneva, 1997. Also available in French.**

The joint statement by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the United Nations Population Fund confirms the universally unacceptable harm caused by female genital mutilation, or female circumcision, and issues an unqualified call for the elimination of this practice in all its forms.

**Dorkenoo E. *Cutting the Rose: Female Genital mutilation: the practice and its prevention.* London: Minority Rights Group, 1994.**

This book presents a comprehensive discussion of the issues surrounding the practice and prevention of female genital mutilation. Also included is an update of prevention work being done in Africa and examples of effective strategies and activities currently underway.



**Toubia N. *Female Genital Mutilation: A Call for Global Action*. New York: Rainbo<sup>+</sup>, 1995.**

This book discusses the practice of FGM in a cultural, health, and rights context. Included are illustrations describing types of female circumcision.

**Heise L. *Violence Against Women: The Hidden Health Burden*. Washington DC: World Bank, 1994.**

This paper brings together existing data on the dimensions of violence against women worldwide and reviews available literature on the health consequences of abuse. To assist policy-makers and programme planners, it explores interventions in primary prevention, justice system reform, health care response, programs to assist victims, and treatment and re-education programs for perpetrators.

**World Health Organization. *Elimination of Violence Against Women: In Search of Solutions*. Document WHD/FRH/WHD/97.38.**

This document is the Executive Summary of a WHO/FIGO Workshop on violence against women. It contains a concise summary of the papers and case studies presented, including their conclusions and recommendations.

**World Health Organization. *Violence Against Women: an information kit*. Document WHO/FRH/WHD/97.8**

The package focusses on violence in families, rape and sexual assault, violence against women in situations of conflict and displacement, as well as violence against the girl child.

## IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

**UNHCR. *Inter-Agency Field Manual: Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations*.**

This manual, *which is currently under revision*, aims to assist all concerned parties – governments, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, the United Nations and its specialized agencies – in introducing and implementing, monitoring and evaluating reproductive health-related interventions that affect women, adolescents and men in refugee and other emergency situations.

**World Health Organization. *When Mother and Baby are Refugees*. Safe Motherhood Newsletter Issue 23. 1997 (1).**

This issue of Safe Motherhood looks especially at mothers and infants in situations of war and disaster. It particularly focusses on motherhood among women refugees.

**Reproductive Health for Refugees Consortium. *An Introduction to Reproductive Health in Refugee Settings: A One Day Awareness Building Module.***

This interactive training module is designed to address the main components of a reproductive health programme for refugees. The curriculum can be used with relief workers, camp managers or headquarters staff of relief agencies.

**Reproductive Health for Refugees Consortium. *Refugees and Reproductive Health Care: The Next Step.***

This document offers the Consortium's views on how best to focus and channel the reproductive health community's efforts to meet the needs of refugees and internally-displaced persons around the world. Focussing on nine countries, it provides information on general and reproductive health conditions, camp conditions, the agencies assisting refugees, and recommends "the next step" for each country to improve the situation.

**UNHCR. *Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations. How to Guide: Community Based Response to Sexual Violence. 1997.***

Based on real-life experience at the Ngara refugee camps in Tanzania, this document aims to share lessons learnt in involving women refugees in addressing the problem of sexual violence in Ngara. Additional support was provided by the UNHCR staff from protection and community services, non-government organizations and local government authorities including the police, the Ministry of Home Affairs, and relevant people within the justice system.

*whlibr.wpd:rvenu:1/13/99*