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Maternal Health Care Service Utilization among Tribal Women in Northeast India: Trends and Determinants

Maternal deaths are results of preventable and treatable complications during pregnancy, childbirth, severe bleeding and infections after child birth, and unsafe abortions. To address inequalities and ensure access to respectful and high-quality of maternity care, ending preventable maternal deaths during pregnancy, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends an access to maternal health care during pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal period. Against this backdrop, this research paper aimed to examine the trends and determinants of Full Ante Natal Care, Skilled Birth Attendance and Post Natal Care utilization among the tribal women in Northeastern states of India. The descriptive research design has been adopted for the study. The five rounds of NFHS data from 1992-92, 1998-99, 2005-06, 2015-16 and 2019-21 was used to portray the trend and determinants in utilization of maternal health care services among tribal women in Northeast India. Descriptive statistics analyzed the utilization trends of Full Ante Natal Care, Skilled Birth Attendance and Post Natal Care. Pooled multivariate logistics regression was conducted to identify the demographic and socio-economic determinates in utilization of maternal health care services. The utilization of maternal health care services among the tribal women in Northeastern states of India remains low and for which, increased efforts should be made to ensure effective implementation of ongoing programs.

Keywords: Tribal Women, Ante Natal Care, Skilled Birth Attendance, Post Natal Care

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