QUALITY ASSURANCE IN OBSTETRICS: THE KEY TO ACHIEVING MDG 4 & 5 IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

H. Galadanci¹, W. Künzel², O. Shittu³, R. Zinser⁴, S. Adams⁵

¹. Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano, Nigeria
². University of Giessen, Germany
³. Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria
⁴. Rotary International Ludwigshafen, Germany
⁵. University of Basel, Germany

Introduction:
Maternal mortality in Nigeria is amongst the highest in the world. Different strategies have been developed in order to achieve MDG 4 & 5. However this is a major challenge as the quality of obstetrical service in many developing countries including Nigeria is low.

Material and methods: Routine data collection with a structured maternity record book started in 2008 in ten rural hospitals in Kano and Kaduna, and was scaled up to 15 hospitals in 2011 in FCT Abuja. The data was analyzed for the regular conducted review meetings as a basis for feedback and discussions with members of the respective hospitals.

Results: 96,327 deliveries were evaluated from 2008-2012. MMR fell from 2130 per 100,000 deliveries in 2008 to 360 per 100,000 deliveries in 2012. MMR shows a wide variance among the States, 1650/100,000 in Kano, 470/100,000 in Kaduna and 200/100,000 in Abuja. The hospital profile from 2012 gives a profound information of the median value and the range of the MMR (360/100,000 deliveries, range 11-3090), the FMR (6.32 %, range 1.95-15.46%), Caesarean section rate (7.57 %, range 0.90-18.63%), Eclampsia/Preeclampsia 4.47 %, (range 1.20 – 33.02%) and Postpartum hemorrhage 2.63 %,( range 1.07 – 10.85%).

Conclusions: Establishment of quality assurance in these hospitals has shown tremendous reduction in MMR. This can only be achieved by a quality circle of data collection, evaluation of the process and scaling up the performance.