

Participant Information Sheet

1. What is the purpose of the study?

Some newborns and mothers die during the childbirth in your community. We want to find ways to reduce preventable these deaths. We believe that you can help us by telling us your experience related to maternal and newborn health care. We want to learn what people think about quality of care. We also want to know how you satisfy with health care you received.

2. Why have I been invited?

This research will involve your participation in a face-to-face interview that will take about a half hour. You are being invited to take part in this research because we feel that your experience as a mother in your community can contribute much to our understanding and knowledge of maternal and newborn health care in Ermera municipality.

3. Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide. We will describe the study and go through the information sheet, which we will give to you. We will then ask you to sign a consent form to show you agreed to take part. This will not affect the standard of care you receive.

4. What will happen if I don't carry on with the study?

You are free to withdraw at any time during the interview, without giving a reason. However, it might be difficult to withdraw after the interview because we record the interview anonymously.

5. What will happen to me if I take part?

- If you accept, you will be asked to participate in an interview with [name of interviewer].
- If you don't wish to answer any question, you do not have to answer, and that is also fine. You do not have to give us any reason for not responding to any question, or for refusing to take part in the interview.
- The interview will last for about a half hour but there is no risks.
- There will be no direct benefit to you, but your participation is likely to help us find out more about how to prevent maternal and newborn deaths and how to improve quality of maternal and newborn care in the future.
- You will not be provided any incentive to take part in the research.

6. Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?

The research being done in the community may draw attention and if you participate you may be asked questions by other people in the community. We will not be sharing information about you to anyone outside of the research team. The information that we collect from this research project will be kept private. Any information about you will have your name and address removed so that you cannot be recognised. That's why we cannot remove your record after the interview.

7. What will happen to the results of the research study?

Nothing that you tell us today will be shared with anybody outside the research team, and nothing will be attributed to you by name. The knowledge that we get from this research will be shared with Ministry of Health, District Health Service, and community leaders at meetings before it is made widely available to the public. There will also be small meetings in the community and these will be announced. Following the meetings, we will publish the results so that other interested people may learn from the research.

8. Further information and contact details

If you have any questions, you can ask them now or later. If you wish to ask questions later, you may contact any of the following: Dulcia Soares Martins (7566-2951/7706-0785)