THE ROLE OF FAMILY PLANNING IN REDUCING MATERNAL MORTALITY IN BANGLADESH

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DECLARATION

I certify that this work does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any university; and that to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where due reference is made in the text.

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I believe that this thesis is properly presented, conforms to the specification for thesis presentation in the university, and is prima facie worthy of examination.

Dr. Gour Dasvarma

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of the study is to analyze the role of family planning program in reducing maternal mortality in Bangladesh. A conceptual framework has been developed in which family planning is shown to be integrated in reducing maternal mortality. This study found that the risk factors of maternal mortality e.g. unwanted pregnancy, high parity, and early and old age at child birth still prevail in Bangladesh. It is hypothesized that the prevalence of these factors can be substantially reduced by a proper practice of family planning. There is a high level of unmet need for family planning Bangladesh, and its removal will substantially help in reducing maternal mortality in the country.

The risk factors of maternal mortality are strongly associated with lack of family planning practice and other socio-economic and demographic background characteristics of women. By using data from the Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (BDHS) of 2004 and the Bangladesh Maternal Health and Maternal Mortality Survey (BMMS) of 2001 the study has analyzed the relationship of the risk factors of maternal mortality, namely wantedness of pregnancy, age at child birth, parity and birth interval with various socio-demographic factors. The analysis has shown that use status of family planning is influenced by the risk factors of maternal mortality. Wantedness of pregnancy has been found to be significantly related with age at birth, parity and birth interval. It has been also found that the risk factors of maternal mortality also affect on antenatal care.

The study has identified some policy implications regarding family planning and maternal mortality, and has made appropriate recommendations. One of the major aspects of the strategies to reduce maternal mortality through family planning is to provide family planning services to all women, regardless of any

group affiliation. Fulfilment of unmet for family planning has been recommended as an important strategy to reduce maternal mortality in the country. It addition, it is also recommended to raise the age at marriage and child birth, to space births and to limit family size by empowering women through education.

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Acronyms and Elaborations

BDHS	Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey
BMMS	Bangladesh Maternal Mortality Services and Maternal Mortality Survey
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
FWA	Family Welfare Assistant
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
HNPSP	Health, Nutrition and Population Sector Program
HPSS	Health and Population Sector Strategy
HPSP	Health and Population Sector Program
ICD-10	International Statistical Classification of Disease and Related Health Problems (10^{th} Revision)
ICDDR,B	International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh
IMMPACT	Initiative for Maternal Mortality Program Assessment
MCH	Maternal and Child-Health
MCH-FP	Maternal and Child Health- Family Planning
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MOHFW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
NIPORT	National Institute of Population Research and Training
NGO	Non Government Organization
PSU	Primary Sampling Units
SMI	Safe Motherhood Initiative
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant

TFR	Total Fertility Rates
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programs
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population
UNICEF	United Nations for children
WHO	World Health Organization