

ChemTech International Journal of ChemTech Research

CODEN (USA): IJCRGG, ISSN: 0974-4290, ISSN(Online):2455-9555 Vol.10 No.4, pp 681-687, 2017

The social autopsy: assessing innovation efforts to reduce maternal mortality in the North Aceh district, Aceh, Indonesia

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Abstract : Many countries, Indonesia included, are unable to achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) target, especially maternal health improvement. Maternal mortality ratio (MMR) in Indonesia was 190 in 100.000 birth rates at 2014. North Aceh District, Aceh, Indonesia has high MMR and is in dire needs of health innovation policy. The previous study revealed specific issues in community cultural pattern (i.e. social, economic, and cultural phenomena) affect MMR in North Aceh District. This study develops social autopsy for maternal mortality based on Acehnese culture by the qualitative study. Autopsy Verbal Maternal (OVM) or Maternal Verbal Autopsy questionnaire was developed by applying maternal mortality track record. This study reveals that the construction of socio-cultural values and the understanding of religious teaching in North Aceh District developed a multi-parity pattern, complication disobeys, tardiness, and difficulties to access health services. This study offers a perspective model for socio-cultural reconstruction and understanding of religious knowledge in promoting maternal health.

Keywords : Acehnese Ethnic, maternal mortality, social autopsy, socio-cultural values construction.

Maidar et al /International Journal of ChemTech Research, 2017,10(4): 681-687.
