Online Supplementary Document

A. Additional details for the method section

Table S1a. Individual level variables from household survey and confounders – Construction of outcome variable

| Variable | Description |
|---|--|
| Outcome variable: | Composite score constructed using 6 indicators as presented below. |
| Appropriate PNC score (package of | |
| postnatal care interventions received by the newborn) | PNC=1 if at least 5 out of 6 interventions were received by the newborn. |
| | PNC=0 if less than 5 out of 6 interventions were received by the newborn. |
| | This variable was constructed given equal weights to each of the components below. Each variable was constructed as a binary: Yes=1 No=0 |
| 6 interventions included | 1)Newborn weighed at birth, |
| | 2) Newborn put to the breast during the first hour after birth, |
| | 3) Newborn not having received pre-lacteal feeds, |
| | 4) Appropriate thermal care: Baby wiped/dried immediately after birth |
| | 5) Appropriate thermal care: Baby bathed at least 6 hours after birth, 6 |
| | Newborn having received a postnatal check at least 2 days after birth |
| | (platform for other interventions not measured) |
| Potential confounders | |
| - Place of residence | 1=Urban; 2=Rural |
| - Region | 1=Southern, 2=Central, 3=Northern |
| - Mother's age at delivery | 1=<20 years; 2=20-34 years; 3=35-49 years old |
| - Mother's education | Self-reported mother's highest level of education reached. |
| | 1=No education received; 2=Primary only; 3=Secondary or Higher |
| - Parity | Number of ever born children |
| | 1=1; 2=2-3; 3=4-5; 4>=6 |
| - Type of delivery | 1= vaginal delivery, 2= C-section |
| - Size of the baby at birth | 1=not very small, 2=very small |
| - Type of facility | 1=Public, 2=Private, 3=CHAM |
| - Household wealth | 1=Poorest; 2=Second; 3=Middle; 4=Fourth; 5=Richest |
| - Density of high 'delivery and | Number of health facilities with a 'delivery and newborn score' above |
| newborn readiness' score health | <u> </u> |
| facilities at district level. High is | |
| defined as above 70 | 1=density below mean 2.98 |
| | 0=density above mean 2.98 |

Table S1b. Delivery and newborn care service readiness score

| readiness score (WHO 2013b). The score consists of 3 domains: 1) staff and training, 2) equipment and 3) medications and commodities. Indicators within each domain of service readiness were given equal weight to produce a domain score, and each domain was then weighted equally to produce a summary score for service readiness. All scores range from 0 to 100 and indicate the average percentage of tracer items that are available within the dimension. Summary scores weight each dimension equally. The score is then calculated as the mean score of the three domains: (Domain 1 + Domain 2 + Domain 3) / 3 Domain 1: Staff and training 2 tracer indicators: 1) Guidelines for Integrated management of pregnancy and childbirth (IMPAC), 2) Staff trained in IMPAC Domain 2: Equipment and supplies 12 tracer indicators: 1) Equipment and supplies 12 tracer indicators: 1) Emergency transport, 2) Sterilization equipment, 3) Examination light, 4) Delivery pack, 5) Suction apparatus (mucus extractor), 6) Manual vacuum extractor, 7) Vacuum aspirator or D&C kit, 8) Neonatal bag and mask, 9) Delivery bed, 10) Blank partograph 11) Latex Gloves 12) infant scale* Each item was categorized as a binary variable: 1=Available, 0=Not available Observed in service area or in facility (depending on the equipment) *Infant scale is not included in the SARA ref. manual for this domain. However, given then relevance in this analysis it has been included. Domain 3: Medicines and commodities 6 tracer indicators: 1) Antibiotic eye ointment for newborn, 2) Injectable uterotonic, 3) Injectable antibiotic, 4) Magnesium sulphate (injectable), 5) Skin disinfectant 6) Intravenous solution with infusion set. Observed in service area OR where routinely stored; in stock with at least one Each item was categorized as a binary variable: 1=Available, 0=Not | Facility delivery and newborn care | This score was constructed following WHO SARA manual Table 4.4.1 |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| equipment and 3) medications and commodities. Indicators within each domain of service readiness were given equal weight to produce a summary score for service readiness. All scores range from 0 to 100 and indicate the average percentage of tracer items that are available within the dimension. Summary scores weight each dimension equally. The score is then calculated as the mean score of the three domains: (Domain 1 + Domain 2 + Domain 3) / 3 Domain 1: Staff and training 1) Guidelines for Integrated management of pregnancy and childbirth (IMPAC), 2) Staff trained in IMPAC 1) Guidelines for Integrated management of pregnancy and childbirth (IMPAC), 2) Staff trained in IMPAC 1) Emergency transport, 2) Sterilization equipment, 3) Examination light, 4) Delivery pack, 5) Suction apparatus (mucus extractor), 6) Manual vacuum extractor, 7) Vacuum aspirator or D&C kit, 8) Neonatal bag and mask, 9) Delivery bed, 10) Blank partograph 11) Latex Gloves 12) infant scale* Each item was categorized as a binary variable: 1=Available, 0=Not available Observed in service area or in facility (depending on the equipment) *Infant scale is not included in the SARA ref. manual for this domain. However, given then relevance in this analysis it has been included. Domain 3: Medicines and commodities 6 tracer indicators: 1) Antibiotic eye ointment for newborn, 2) Injectable uterotonic, 3) Injectable antibiotic, 4) Magnesium sulphate (injectable), 5) Skin disinfectant 6) Intravenous solution with infusion set. Observed in service area OR where routinely stored; in stock with at least one Each item was categorized as a binary variable: 1=Available, 0=Not | | |
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| | | Each item was categorized as a binary variable: 1=Available, 0=Not available |

B. Additional details for the results section

Table S2. Percentage of health facilities that have a score higher than 70% in each domain of the 'normal delivery and newborn care' service readiness score. Results presented by residence, region and district.

| | Domain 1: Staff and training | Domain 2: Equipment and Supplies | Domain 3: Medicines and commodities | Readiness Score* | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------|--|
| District/region | High >70% n (%) | High >70% n (%) | High >70% n (%) | High >70% n (%) | |
| Urban | 23 (29.8) | 60(77.2) | 52 (66.2) | 41(52.3) | |
| Rural | 90 (20.1) | 186(41.4) | 236 (52.5) | 145(32.3) | |
| Central region | | | | | |
| Dedza | 5 (17.2) | 9(31) | 15 (51.8) | 8(27.6) | |
| Dowa | 9 (42.8) | 12(57.1) | 13 (61.9) | 14(66.7) | |
| Kasungu | 2 (10.5) | 9(47.3) | 4 (21) | 5(26.2) | |
| Lilongwe | 15 (30.6) | 29(57.7) | 24 (48) | 19(38.4) | |
| Mchinji | 5 (35.6) | 10(71.1) | 8 (57.1) | 8(56.8) | |
| Nkhotakota | 5 (27.8) | 6(33.2) | 9 (50) | 4(22.2) | |
| Ntcheu | 8 (30.8) | 15(57.7) | 12 (46.1) | 9(34.6) | |
| Ntchisi | 2 (20) | 3(29.9) | 2 (20) | 2(20) | |
| Salima | 3 (19.9) | 6(39.8) | 9 (59.8) | 5(33.2) | |
| Central | 53 (26.9) | 97(48.9) | 94 (47.5) | 73(36.7) | |
| Northern Region | | | | | |
| Chitipa | 5 (55.2) | 7(77.6) | 4 (44.4) | 5(55.2) | |
| Karonga | 2 (13.2) | 6(39.5) | 12 (80) | 9(59.7) | |
| Likoma (a) | 1 (50.8) | 1(49.2) | 2 (100) | 1(50.8) | |
| Mzimba | 11 (25.6) | 17(39.2) | 26 (60.3) | 17(39.3) | |
| Nkhata Bay | 1 (5.6) | 7(38.8) | 12 (66.7) | 4(22.1) | |
| Rumphi | 1 (6.1) | 8(49.7) | 7 (44) | 5(31.2) | |
| Northern | 21 (20.4) | 45(44.4) | 62 (61.2) | 40(39.6) | |
| Southern Region | | | | | |
| Balaka | 5 (45.4) | 7(63.6) | 9 (81.8) | 8(72.7) | |
| Blantyre | 3 (11.4) | 15(57.9) | 12 (46.5) | 7(27.1) | |
| Chikwawa | 1 (4.8) | 12(56.2) | 16 (75.2) | 8(37.3) | |
| Chiradzulu | 1 (9.1) | 4(36.3) | 6 (54.5) | 2(18.1) | |
| Machinga | 4 (22.2) | 7(38.9) | 8 (44.4) | 4(22.2) | |
| Mangochi | 9 (28) | 13(40.5) | 11 (34.3) | 8(24.9) | |
| Mulanje | 4 (18.9) | 5(23.8) | 15 (71.2) | 5(23.7) | |

| Mwanza | 1 (24.9) | 2(49.9) | 2 (49.9) | 1(24.9) |
|----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Neno | 2 (22.2) | 4(44.4) | 7 (77.8) | 3(33.3) |
| Nsanje | 0 (0) | 5(35.8) | 7 (50.1) | 5(35.8) |
| Phalombe | 1 (8.3) | 3(25.2) | 9 (75.1) | 3(25.2) |
| Thyolo | 10 (39.8) | 15(60.2) | 17 (68.2) | 16(64.2) |
| Zomba | 0 (0) | 15(50) | 15 (53.4) | 5(16.8) |
| Southern | 40 (17.4) | 104(45.7) | 131 (57.7) | 73(32) |
| Total | 114 (21.6) | 246(46.7) | 288 (54.5) | 186(35.3) |

| P-values district | < 0.01 | 0.20 | 0.01 | < 0.01 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|------|--------|
| P-values regions | 0.05 | 0.70 | 0.03 | 0.35 |
| P-values urban/rural | 0.05 | < 0.01 | 0.02 | < 0.01 |

^{*}Equal weighed score of the 3 domains.

(a) District not included in the analysis given that it was not included in the household survey MES 2014.

Table legend: Frequencies and cross-tabulations were weighted to account for the unequal probabilities of selection due to differing client volumes on the interview date. P-values from chi squared test

Table~S3.~Univariate~analysis~of~essential~PNC~interventions~for~the~newborn~in~the~postpartum~period,~among~health~facilities~births~across~regions,~N=6218

| | | | | | | | | | P- |
|---|-----|---------------------|------|----------------------|------|---------------------|------|---------------------|----------|
| | N | orthern | | Central | S | outhern | | Total | value(a) |
| | N | % [95% CI] | N | % [95% CI] | N | % [95% CI] | N | % [95% CI] | |
| Districts | 6 | | 9 | | 13 | | 28 | | |
| N. facilities | 102 | | 198 | | 227 | | 528 | | |
| Facility births | 770 | | 2595 | | 3296 | | 6660 | | |
| Newborn weighed at birth | 758 | 98.4 [97.2,99.1] | 2477 | 95.4 [93.0, 97.0] | 3191 | 96.8 [96.0,97.5] | 6425 | 96.5 [95.5,97.2] | 0.034 |
| Early initiation of breastfeeding | 573 | 74.4 [69.3,79.0] | 2071 | 79.8 [77.0,82.3] | 2428 | 73.7 [71.4,75.9] | 5073 | 76.2 [74.5,77.8] | 0.002 |
| No prelacteal feeding | 749 | 98.8 [97.5,99.4] | 2541 | 98.3 [97.4,98.9] | 3211 | 98.8 [98.3,99.2] | 6501 | 98.6 [98.2,99.0] | 0.451 |
| Newborn being wiped/dried immediately after birth | 742 | 96.3 [94.5,97.5] | 2480 | 95.6 [94.0,96.7] | 3056 | 92.7 [91.3,93.9] | 6277 | 94.2 [93.3,95.0] | 0.001 |
| Newborn bathed 6 hrs after birth or later | 441 | 59.4 [53.2,65.4] | 1803 | 72.7 [68.9,76.2] | 1666 | 54.5 [51.4,57.6] | 3909 | 62.3 [59.8,64.7] | <0.001 |
| Newborn received PNC visit 2 days after birth | 738 | 95.8 [94.2,97.0] | 2257 | 87 [84.1,89.4] | 2889 | 87.7 [85.9,89.2] | 5884 | 88.3 [86.9,89.7] | <0.001 |
| 'Appropriate PNC' Newborn received at least 5 postnatal care interventions (listed above) | 656 | 89.5 [85.5,92.6] | 2165 | 87.7 [85.8,89.4] | 2457 | 81.4 [79.4,83.3] | 5278 | 84.9 [83.6,86.1] | <0.001 |
| Newborn received all 6 postnatal care interventions (listed above) | 301 | 41.1 [37,45.39] | 1222 | 49.5 [46.4,52.6] | | 37.1 [34.4,39.9] | | 42.5 [40.6,44.5] | <0.001 |