

1. What is maternal death?

Maternal death is deaths of women while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy from any cause related to aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental incidental causes.

2. What are the causes of death?

The death is mostly caused by complications of hypertension, obstetric haemorrhage, pregnancy related sepsis, HIV and AIDS, pre-existing medical disease, acute collapse and ectopic pregnancy. Women under the age of 20 years of age are mostly faced with the death of hypertension while haemorrhage is common to women of 35 years of age and older and can cause deaths.

3. Steps taken by department to address maternal deaths?

The department has taken steps to ensure that preventable matters to avoid death are addressed or taken effectively:

- Improving the quality and coverage of productive health services, namely contraceptive and termination of pregnancy services.
- Better management of staffing and equipment norms, transport and availability of blood for transfusion.
- Improving health care provider knowledge and skills in providing emergency care and ensuring adequate screening and treatment of the major causes of maternal deaths.
- Community involvement and empowerment regarding maternal, neonatal and reproductive health in general.

4. Symptoms of the disease

Excessively Swollen feet caused by hypertension and other complications of the pregnancy.

5. What to do if have symptoms?

It is advised that the affected people should consult medical professionals as soon as possible for the treatment.

6. Take medication as prescribed:

Patients are treated accordingly following protocols of their condition.

*The source of most of this information is from the website: www.allafricah.com