Oxytocin for preventing postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) in non-facility birth settings

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Abstract

Postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) is the single leading cause of maternal mortality worldwide. Most of the deaths associated with PPH occur in resource poor settings where effective methods of prevention and treatment such as oxytocin are not accessible because many births still occur at home, or in community settings, far from a health facility. Likewise, most of the evidence supporting oxytocin effectiveness comes from hospital settings in high income countries, mainly because of the need of well organised care for its administration and monitoring. Easier methods for oxytocin administration have been developed for use in resource poor settings, but as far as we know, its effectiveness has not been assessed in a systematic review..