

ZERO MATERNAL DEATHS FROM OBSTETRIC EMERGENCIES

Maternal mortality continues to be a significant problem in Latin America and the Caribbean. According to recent estimates, nearly 8,000 women die each year from complications during pregnancy, delivery and puerperium. Although a slowdown in the reduction of maternal mortality (MMR) had already been recorded previously, the COVID 19 pandemic compounded the situation even more, causing a 20-year setback in the region's maternal health indicators and distancing us from the commitments made for 2030. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) and the Latin American Center for Perinatology - Women's and Reproductive Health (CLAP/WR) have been carrying out actions to support the countries and reverse this pressing situation.

Zero maternal deaths due to obstetric emergencies consists of training trainers to prevent, timely diagnose and provide adequate treatment for the main obstetric emergencies, including severe respiratory infections.

BACKGROUND AND FIRST STEPS

- This initiative has a precedent in the **Zero Maternal Deaths from Haemorrhage** strategy, which was evaluated as highly successful and replicated by several countries in the region.
- The Zero Maternal Deaths from Obstetric Emergencies workshop **was validated in 2022 by a group of experts** from several countries in the region: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.
- Since its validation, **workshops** have already been held in the cities of Medellin and Bogota, Colombia, and several more are expected to be held during 2023.
- **PAHO recommendations for the management of major obstetric emergencies** were prepared..

CONTENTS AND METHODOLOGY

Each workshop is structured into modules that cover the following topics:

- Early warning systems and criteria for admission to the ICU
- Sepsis
- Preeclampsia
- Thromboembolic phenomena
- Severe respiratory infection
- Loss of fetal well-being
- Cerebro-cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Non-technical skills (communication)

The dynamics consists of **theoretical presentations** to guide the **practical work** and a series of stations to **work in teams**, analyze contents, carry out simulations, as well as spaces for sharing experiences and opinions on the proposals that were carried out.

Through these workshops, health professionals are trained so that they can replicate the knowledge acquired to other professionals and take the best practices to other territories.