

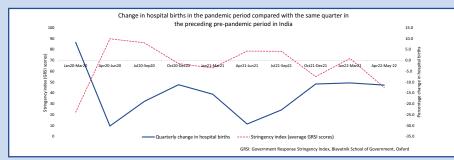
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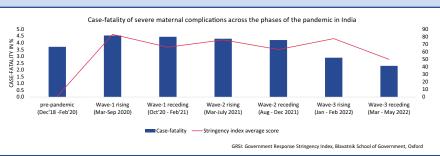
**June 2022** 

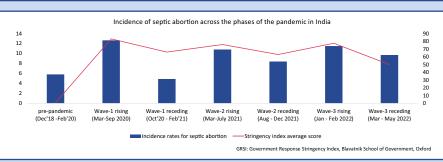
Maternal and perinatal Health Research collaboration, India (MaatHRI) is a UK-India collaboration for translating evidence from new scientific discoveries to improve clinical care for mothers and children. It now includes 16 hospitals across 6 states in India.

# An update on the indirect impact of COVID-19 on maternal health and care (from Workstream-1)

- The strong relationship between the strictness of social restrictions and hospital births and septic abortion observed during waves one and two of the pandemic was not observed during the third wave, although the patterns remained similar. Case-fatality of severe pregnancy complications was lower during the third wave compared with the prepandemic period.
- This demonstrates the value of longitudinal data in understanding how the impact unfolded over time.
- MaatHRI is the only platform in India that is able to generate this data in real time.







# **Updates on participant** recruitment until May 2022

#### Workstream-2

A case-control study of heart failure in pregnant women: 343 cases of suspected heart failure and 822 controls.

#### Workstream-3

A prospective study of safety of induction and augmentation of labour in pregnant women with anaemia: 7329 participants, target remaining 11%.

## Updates are published monthly on the MaatHRI website

www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/maathri

## MaatHRI conference in Goa, India, 28th and 29th May 2022

A two-day conference was organised in Goa to discuss the achievements of the collaboration, ongoing research, and future strategies.

### **Highlights**

- There were presentations on the following topics followed by discussions to develop further research:
  - Epidemiology and screening tests for preeclampsia
  - Epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of haemolytic anaemia in pregnant women
  - Role of iron in peripartum cardiomyopathy
  - A comparison of the latest statistics on maternal health across the eight North-eastern States
  - A systematic review of facility-based stillbirth review processes used in different countries across the world
  - An overview on maternal mental health in India
- The group had the opportunity to learn from the experiences of maternal deaths and maternal near miss surveillance and response at MGIMS, Sevagram.
- We were inspired by a talk about the 20-year journey and contribution of the Makunda Hospital in improving healthcare services in one of the most remote regions of the country.
- We discussed the importance of dissemination and translation of the research outputs by engaging with both the community and policy makers.

"My concern and priority would be that with the way we have already travelled in this MaatHRi project we now have to take steps to analyse [the data] and based on the findings must prepare the first steps on policy intervention..."

(Prof D Bora, Vice Chancellor, Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences)

• There was an overwhelming recognition that the MaatHRI collaboration over the past five years has been able to demonstrate the value of innovative research.

"The journey of MaatHRI is a stimulus for the medical colleges and post-graduate students on how innovative research can have an impact."

(Prof RK Talukdar, Principal, Jorhat Medical College, Assam)

• The collaborators discussed the importance of undertaking research that is relevant to the local population. It was felt that not all evidence generated in a high-income setting, particularly diagnostic markers and treatment protocols, are applicable for India and other low-and-middle income countries.



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