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"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
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SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Ensuring Respectful Maternity Care in Rural India – Challenges and Solutions
Type	TUFH Oral Presentation
Presenting Author	Smriti Khandelwal
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Country	India
Abstract N°	TUFH539
Content	<p>Background: Respectful maternity care (RMC) was facilitated by addressing issues of privacy, birth companion and pain relief by women's choice during childbirth to enable woman centered approach for human rights promoting practices that recognize women's preferences and needs. Methods: Key stakeholders like health care providers, midwives, accredited social health activist and attendees of laboring woman were trained to deliver personalized maternity care to 2000 women in rural institute of central India over a period of one year. Pharmacological and non-pharmacological methods of pain relief was used according to woman's choice, birth companion was selected and trained in prenatal period. Infrastructure of birthing area was enhanced to support privacy Results: RMC initiative was successfully implemented in target population. Important stakeholders like birth attendant, laboring women, relatives and health care provider imbibed the principle and practice of fulfilling the much desired psycho-social and human rights element of quality of care in maternity issues. Attitudinal change in health care providers and positive reinforcement of pain relief, dignity and choice of female birth companion was seen as a result of the project . High volume of deliveries was a hindrance as well as poor participation by male partner in child birth process. One sided decision by HCP for interventions like episiotomy were seen, which could be reduced over the period of time Conclusion: Respectful Maternity care is the right of every woman and involving the community, health care provider and birth attendant with targeted intervention can ensure it.</p>