



Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Health



National MNCH program

## PUNJAB MIDWIFERY CONVENTION REPORT

*DECEMBER 24, 2010*



COMMUNITY MIDWIVES-THE CHAMPIONS OF MNCH PROGRAM

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The National MNCH Program acknowledges the support, participation and valuable contribution of everyone who has made this event successful, which is very important for acknowledging the services of CMWs and their tutors, who are playing a pivotal role in the promotion of better health for the newborns and mothers in Pakistan.

The Program brings into words its appreciation for the generous support extended by UNFPA and its management for financing the activity and providing technical assistance.

We also extends special thanks to all partners, stakeholders like UNFPA, DFID, PAIMAN, Save the Children, USAID, WHO, RAF, UNICEF and FP/PHC for their valuable contribution which reflects their commitment for making National MNCH Program successful.

The MNCH Program Management is also grateful to Dr. Saeed Elahi, Advisor to Chief Minister Punjab, CMWs, and their tutors, Provincial Program Mangers, Public Health Specialists and Social Organizers from all districts of Punjab for their participation.

Last but not the least, the management wants to acknowledge the effort of MNCH Program team, both technical and administrative for their tireless efforts in making this convention well planned and well organized.

## INTRODUCTION

Pakistan Maternal Mortality and Morbidity is high in comparison to other developing countries in the region. The recent PDHS Survey gave MMR as 278 per hundred thousand live births which is quite an alarming figure. In other words every 20 minutes a women dies due to complications of pregnancy. The irony is that these deaths arising of pregnancy complications are preventable.

The Government of Pakistan (MoH) recognizing the fact that MMR is very high, embarked on developing a cadre of skilled birth attendants (community midwives) through the National Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Program. These community Midwives will conduct normal deliveries at the household level and will be able to recognize complications at the time of delivery and will refer the women to functional comprehensive or basic emergency obstetric health facilities. This workforce of Community Midwives would significantly contribute in reduction of maternal mortality.

The National MNCH Program will train and deploy 12,000 Community Midwives all over Pakistan in the program life time i.e. 2006-12. Currently 3,241 Community Midwives have been trained and out of the total 1,590 Community Midwives are trained in the Province of Punjab.

To recognize, acknowledge and appreciate the services of best, position holder CMWs, their tutors, a convention/award distribution ceremony was held on December 24<sup>th</sup> at Lahore, under auspices of MNCH Program. Recognition of these Community Midwives is essential for their encouragement as well as their acceptance within their respective catchments areas. In the convention gold medals were distributed among the top position holder students from all districts of Punjab and tutors of the Community Midwives as recognition for their hard work. Where as shield were presented to the best performing MNCH Managers, stake holders, partners to acknowledge and recognize their financial and technical support for MNCH program.

A large number of people belonging to all walks of life participated in the ceremony. Beside officers from GOP, the event was attended by renowned Academicians, Public Health Experts, Program Managers, Provincial Coordinators, Representatives from partner Organizations – USAID, JSI-PAIMAN, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, Save the Children-US, PRIDE and TRF.

In this document the proceedings of community midwives convention held at Avari Hotel, Lahore is summarized. The views addressed by invited speakers at the convention are captured in this report.

## OBJECTIVES

Midwives are specially trained Skilled Birth Attendants who are equipped to conduct normal home deliveries under safe and clean conditions. They are trained in accredited institutions and are examined and licensed under a recognized national regulatory authority. They are selected from the community where they are most likely to stay and work at the grass root level within their specific cultural environment. They can practice midwifery in their respective union councils under the supervision of district health authorities.

A convention was organized By MNCH Program with the assistance of Provincial Government and with financial assistance from UNFPA, with the objective to recognize and encourage position holders Community Midwives and their tutors for their hard work by awarding them gold medals which is very essential for their encouragement as well as for their acceptance within their respective catchment areas. Beside Community Midwives and their tutors' representatives from Partner organizations were also distributed shields as a token of acknowledging their support and assistance for MNCH program.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION

The MNCH Program has planned a convention for these trained community midwives in Lahore. Recognition of these community midwives is essential for their encouragement as well as their acceptance within their respective catchments areas. In the convention the best performing community midwives were given recognition shields.

To make the convention a success and to encourage CMW's the event was inaugurated by Chief Guest **Dr.Saeed Elahi, Advisory to Chief Minister, Punjab**. The convention was attended by more than 300 CMWs, their tutors, Provincial Program Mangers, Public Health Specialists and Social Organizers representing different districts of Punjab.



*Dr. Saeed Elahi, Advisor to CM, Punjab*



*Dr. Sabiha Khurshid MNCH, Punjab*

The welcome address was given by Dr.Sabiha Khurshid Ahmed, Provincial Coordinator, MNCH Program Punjab, who appreciated the efforts of development partners for providing support to MNCH Program in the training of CMWs. She also applauded the role of CMWs tutors for imparting quality training in the province.

**Dr. Farooq Akhtar, National Program Manager, MNCH Program**, briefed the participants regarding the progress of program and appraised the services of CMWs. He thanked and appreciated the efforts of UNFPA and other development partners/stake holders for their financial and valuable technical assistance and for their all time support to National MNCH Program. He stressed upon the importance of CMWs cadre with a view that this cadre will make a difference in the provision of MNCH Services especially in the remote areas.



*Dr. Farooq Akhtar NPM MNCH program*

**Dr.Iqbal Lehri, National Coordinator, National Program for FP&PHC** stressed on the coordination and combined focus of MNCH and PHC/FP Program to improve Mother and Child Health and extends his full support to MNCH Program.





Dr. Jamil, UNFPA

**Dr. Jamil, PCO, UNFPA**, highlighted the role and importance of CMWs in the reduction of Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) through provision of skilled birth attendance at the community level. He also stressed upon the importance of Family Planning Services in the reduction of Maternal Morbidity and Mortality and expressed his full support to MNCH Program for improving Reproductive Health Services in Pakistan.



Dr. Hemlal Sharma, UNICEF

**Dr. Hemlal Sharma, Chief Health, UNICEF** has appreciated the launch of CMWs deployment by MNCH Program at the community level. In his concluding address he talked about the long way to accentuate on MDG 4 and 5 for saving the mothers and newborns of Pakistan.

## AWARD DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY

Academically brilliant CMWs were awarded gold medals. For this purpose first three position holder CMWs were selected from each district of Punjab and a total number of ninety three CMWs were awarded from thirty four districts.



CMW Trainer receiving gold medal



Dr. Sabiha Khurshid giving gold medal to CMW

Thirty four best trainers, one trainer from each district was also awarded gold medals for their valuable efforts in the training of CMWs.

National MNCH Program is not alone in the noble cause of improving maternal and child health. Development partners, donors, bilateral like UNFPA, DFID, PAIMAN, Save the Children, USAID, WHO, RAF, UNICEF and FP/PHC are very earnestly supporting the program at all tiers of its implementation and are doing concrete efforts to ensure that we reach out to all the mothers and newborns in Pakistan.

Ministry of Health on behalf of MNCH program highly appreciates the contribution of development partners and as a token of acknowledging their continued support, contribution in different areas of MNCH program, representative from these organizations were awarded shields.



Dr. Mubashar Malik, Dr Salim Wali, Dr Jamil from **UNFPA** were presented shields. UNFPA is providing technical and financial assistance to MNCH at the Policy and Operational level for improving the quality of life of the people. The combined strategic focus of both



*Dr. Saleem Wali UNFPA receiving a shield*

*Dr. Saleem Wali UNFPA receiving a shield*

MNCH Program and UNFPA is to reduce fertility and high maternal mortality in all districts across Pakistan by enhancing skilled birth attendants, ensuring basic and comprehensive EmONC services and by providing Family Planning services.



**UNICEF** is supporting the MNCH Program in communication, monitoring and evaluation of the program activities. As recognition of their countless efforts in MNCH services in Pakistan, Dr. Hem Lal Sharma also received a shield.

*Dr. Hem Lal sharma receiving a shield*

**JSI-PAIMAN-** was very generous in providing both technical and financial assistance to MNCH Program. As a joint effort workshops and seminars on Maternal and Child Health issues were organized at the federal and provincial level. More over 7.1 million was also provided through PNC by PAIMAN for the registration of CMWs. Their services in communication especially to mobilize and create awareness about FP/RH in the religious sector were highly appreciated. Dr Nabila Ali was also awarded shield as a token of acknowledging the contribution of PAIMAN.

**WHO-** has been providing technical assistance to the MNCH program since its inception, specially related to IMNCI and IMPAC guidelines with the aim to improve the health status of Mother and Child in Pakistan. Dr. Babar was presented a shield as a token of acknowledging their services in MNCH program.



*Dr. Baber WHO is receiving a shield*

Dr. Aman Ullah Khan from **Save the Children** was awarded for providing both technical and financial support especially in communication.

The role of **FP/PHC Program** is also very important in the effective execution of health services at the grass root. Dr. Iqbal Lehri, National Program Manager, FP/PHC received a shield as an acknowledgement of their support to MNCH program.



*Dr. Iqbal Lehri PHC/PF is receiving a shield*

Besides appreciating the role of partners and bilaterals, it was also very important to acknowledge the countless effort of MNCH program Managers. Dr. Farooq Akhtar National Program Manager MNCH Program, Dr. Sabiha Khurshid, Program Coordinator MNCH Punjab, Dr. Sahib Jan Bader, Program Coordinator MNCH Sindh, Dr. Parvez Kamal , Program Coordinator MNCH, FATA , Dr. Muhammah Yousaf Bazinjo, Program Coordinator MNCH Balochistan were the Provincial and Federal Managers who have been awarded shields.



*Federal & Provincial Manager of MNCH Program receiving shield*

In the event Chief Guest Dr. Saeed Elahi (Advisory to Chief Minister, Punjab) appreciated the efforts of both National MNCH Program and UNFPA for organizing such a successful event. He put emphasis on health and education being the primary focus of Punjab Govt. & mentioned the concerns and interest of Chief Minister Punjab in the provision of MNCH Services at the community level. He congratulated the students and greatly admires the sincere efforts of Program



*Dr. Saeed Elahi Advisor to C.M Punjab*

Managers and partners for their support to the peoples of Punjab by providing skilled birth attendants. After the ceremony, the guests were entertained with refreshment.

## CONCLUSION

On behalf of Ministry of Health Dr. Farooq Akhtar, National Program Manager MNCH Program extended thanks to the attendees for joining the ceremony and registering their commitments to the cause of newborn and child health in Pakistan. He said that appreciating and acknowledgement always provide source of encouragement to improve the working and efficiency. He also expressed gratitude to Dr Saeed Illahi, Advisor to Chief Minister Punjab, for gracing the occasion with his presence which is an evidence of the Government's commitment to achieve the MDG's 4 and 5 while striving to provide better health care to the women and children of the country.

In his concluding remarks Program Manager stated that their thoughts and prayers are with the millions of women, children and families who have been devastated by the recent flood that hit Pakistan. He showed his confidence that their MNCH Managers along with their work force specially community midwives will overcome the tragedy and will bring hope back to them. As MNCH program has been implementing a number of activities to promote birth spacing and other preventive guidelines under Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancies (HTSP) to help reduce Maternal and Child Health and move the country close to achieving MDGs Goals. Community midwives working at the grass root level will be great help for MNCH Program in achieving our goals and targets.

In the end he thanked all the participants again for their participation in the convention which reflects their commitment to a combined cause for which both the Public and Developmental sector is striving- i.e to improve Mather and Child Health in Pakistan and acknowledging the importance of CMWs through whom this combined aim can be achieved.

## PHOTO GALLERY

### PARTICIPANTS OF CONVENTION



MEDAL DISTRIBUTION TO CMW TUTORS



MEDAL DISTRIBUTION TO CMWs



## Convention of Community Midwives

24<sup>th</sup> of December 2010 at Avari Hotel, Lahore

### AGENDA

24 <sup>th</sup> December, 2010			
Sr. no.	Activities	Time	Presenters/Moderator
1	Recitation (Tilawat)	11:00-11:05	
2	Welcome Address by Provincial Program Coordinator, Punjab	11:05-11:10	Dr. Sabiha Khurshid
3	Remarks by Program Manager, MNCH Program	11:10-11:15	Dr. Farooq Akhtar, National Program Manager
4	Comments of Provincial Secretary Health	11:15 -11:25	Mr. Fawad Hassan Fawad <del>Provincial Secretary, Health</del>
5	Comments of Federal Secretary Health	11:25 -11:35	Mr. Khushnood Akhtar Lashari <del>Federal Secretary, Health</del>
6	Certificate & Award Distribution	11:35-12:10	Honorable Federal Minister for Health
7	Speech by Federal Minister for Health	12:10-12:20	Honorable Federal Minister for Health
<b>Lunch</b>			

List of the Participants

CMWs Convention

Dated 24th December, 2010, Lahore

S.No	Name	Department / Designation
1	Dr. Assad Hafeez	Director General Health, Ministry of Health
2	Dr. Zahida Sarwar	Deputy Program Coordinator, MNCH Program Punjab
3	Dr. M. Daud	M & E Officer, MNCH Program Punjab
4	Dr. Aftab Ahmad Khan	Director M&E, D.G.H.S Office, Punjab
5	Dr. Anwar Janjua	Director DHIS, D.G.H.S Office, Punjab
6	Dr. M. Zaman Khattak	Program Coordinator, MNCH Program Khyber Pakhtun Khwa
7	Dr. Sahib Jan Badar	Program Coordinator, MNCH Program Sindh
8	Dr. Muhammad Yousaf Bazinjo	Program Coordinator, MNCH Program Balochistan
9	Dr. Sardar Mehmood Ahmad	Program Coordinator, MNCH Program, AJ&K
10	Dr. Pervaiz Kamal	Program Coordinator, MNCH Program, FATA
11	Dr. Behram Khan	Program Coordinator, MNCH Program Gilgit / Baltistan
12	Dr. Farooq Akhtar	Program Manager, MNCH Program
13	Dr. Fayaz Shaikh	Deputy Program Coordinator, MNCH Program
14	Dr. Ejaz Qadeer	Deputy Program Coordinator, MNCH Program
15	Dr. Sher Baz	Deputy Program Coordinator, MNCH Program

16	Mrs. Nighat Durrani	Registrar, Pakistan Nursing Council
17	Dr. Saleem Wali Khan	Technical Advisor, MNCH Program
18	Mr. Ehtasham	Communication Consultant, MNCH Program
19	Ms. Shahida	MNCH Program
20	Ms. Farah	MNCH Program
21	Dr. Iqbal Ahamd Lehri	National Program Coordinator, NP for FP & PHC
22	Dr. Arshad Chandio	Deputy Program Coordinator, NP for FP & PHC
23	Dr. Tasneem	Principal, Public Health School, Lahore, Punjab
24	Mr. Farooq Azam	Team Leader, TRF
25	Dr. Najma Lalji	MNCH Specialist, TRF
26	Mr. Inam Ullah Khan	Procurement and Capacity Strengthening Manager, TRF
27	Dr. Syed Aarif Hussain	Health System Specialist, TRF
28	Ms. Pamela Sequeira	Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, TRF
30	Dr. Qaiser Pasha	Senior Health Advisor, AusAid
31	Dr. Mobashar Malik	National Program Officer, UNFPA
32	Dr. Ghulam Shabir	Technical Advisor
33	Dr. Guido Sabatinelli	WR Pakistan, WHO
34	Dr. Ahmad Shahdoul	Medical Officer, CAH, WHO
35	Mr. George Turkington	Head of DFID
36	Dr. Syed Raza Zaidi	Health & Population Advisor, DFID
37	Ms. Janet Paz Castillo	Health Officer Chief, USAID
38	Dr. Mohamed Cisse	Chief Health and Nutrition, UNICEF
39	Dr. Samia Rizwan	Health Officer, UNICEF
40	Dr. Hemlal Sharma	Health Specialist, UNICEF

41	Ms. Sheeba Afgani	Communication Specialist, UNICEF
42	Ms. Karen Allen	Deputy Representative UNICEF, Islamabad
43	Dr. Aman Ullah Khan	Save the Children
44	Mr. David Wright	Country Director, Save the Children
45	Dr. Professor Rizwana Chaudary	Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Holy Family Hospital, Rawalpindi
46	Dr. Nabeela Ali	Chief of Party, JSI / PAIMAN
47	Dr. Fayyaz Khan	Director Program & Grants, JSI / PAIMAN
48	Dr. Aamir Raza	Deputy Team Leader, RAF
49	Dr. Syed Israr Shah	Consultant CMW Deployment