

# SAFE MOTHERHOOD

Obstetric audit in Namibia and the Netherlands

Audit is an ideal method of operational research: it is practical, can often be implemented in existing daily routine, stimulates discussion and reflection leading to professional attitude, encourages the auditor to think 'out of the box' and to form an ectoscopic view, identifies areas of improvement at local level and, after agreement and implementation of changes, may ultimately result in quality improvement.

In this thesis audits from Namibia and the Netherlands are presented concerning three Safe Motherhood issues: maternal mortality, maternal morbidity and obstetric interventions.

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