

KNOWLEDGE OF PREGNANCY WARNING SIGNS

Output indicator

Indicator Phrasing

English: % of women of reproductive age who are able to state at least three warning signs during pregnancy

French: % de femmes en âge de procréer qui sont capables de citer au moins trois signes d'alerte pendant la grossesse

Portuguese: % de mulheres em idade reprodutiva que são capazes de identificar pelo menos três sinais de aviso durante a gravidez

Czech: % žen v reprodukčním věku schopných uvést alespoň tři rizikové příznaky v průběhu těhotenství

What is its purpose?

The indicator assesses the proportion of women of reproductive age aware of at least three warning signs during pregnancy – a key pre-condition for seeking timely and appropriate care.

How to Collect and Analyse the Required Data

Collect the following data by conducting individual interviews with a [representative sample](#) of women of reproductive age:

RECOMMENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS (Q) AND POSSIBLE ANSWERS (A)

Q1: *During pregnancy, a woman may encounter severe problems or illnesses which require her to go or be taken to a health facility immediately. What symptoms would cause you to immediately go to a health facility for a medical examination?*

A1:

- 1) vaginal bleeding
- 2) fast/ difficult breathing
- 3) high fever
- 4) severe abdominal pain
- 5) headache/ blurred vision
- 6) convulsions

- 7) foul-smelling discharge/ fluid from the vagina
- 8) baby stops moving
- 9) leaking brownish/ greenish fluid from the vagina
- 10) swelling of face, hands or feet

Note: If less than three signs are stated, keep probing: *“Are there any other warning signs you know?”*

To **calculate the indicator’s value**, divide the respondents aware of at least three of the pre-defined warning signs by the total number of respondents. Multiply the result by 100 to convert it to a percentage.

Disaggregate by

Consider disaggregating the data by location (rural/ urban), socio-economic characteristics (education level, [wealth](#) quintile) and the number of respondent’s children (none, one, two, three, four ...).

Important Comments

- 1) Consider using a slightly revised indicator for **assessing the knowledge of important family members**, such as their mothers-in-law, mothers or husbands.

E-Questionnaire

- [XLS form for electronic data collection - indicator Knowledge of Pregnancy Warning Signs](#)