

## HUSBAND'S ROLE IN ASSISTANCE OF LABORING PROCESS: SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW

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### Abstract

The Maternal Mortality Rate has decreased, but is still far from the MDGs target in 2015 although the number of deliveries assisted by health workers has increased. The main causes of maternal death are bleeding, hypertension in pregnancy and post partum. These causes can be reduced if the quality of Antenatal Care is conducted well. The purpose of this study is to conduct a review of the description of the husband's role when assisting delivery. This study was conducted by employing systematic literature review of 6 articles taken from the PubMed database. Inclusion criteria (articles 2009-2018, Full text, qualitative study design). Critical Appraisal was done with Joanna Briggs. A study of a systematic literature review of 6 journals found that there was a significant effect of implementing husband's assistance in delivery process. It is very important for a successful delivery. The involvement of husband in mother health during labor is important. Husband has a crucial role in the laboring process to accompany mothers. Husbands are not only helping to fulfill the wife's needs during the maternity process, but also making mothers feeling more comfortable.

**Keywords: husband, role, assistance, labor**

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The maternal mortality rate has decreased, but it is still far from the MDGs target for 2015, although the number of deliveries assisted by health workers has increased. The main causes of maternal death are bleeding, hypertension in pregnancy and post partum. This cause can be reduced if the quality of Antenatal Care is done well [1]. Achievement of maternal health efforts, including can be seen from the indicator of Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR). Based on the Indonesian demographic and health survey (IDHS) in 2012, the maternal mortality rate in Indonesia is still high at 359 per 100,000 live births. This number is slightly decreased compared to the 1991 IDHS, which is 390 per 100,000 live births[1].The government and the community are responsible for ensuring that every mother has access to quality maternal health services, from when she is pregnant, childbirth assistance by trained health personnel, and post-natal care for mothers and babies, special care and referrals for complications, and access towards family planning[1].The biggest causes of maternal mortality during 2010-2013 still remained the same as bleeding, preeclampsia, eclampsia, and infections while prolonged delivery contributed to the lowest maternal mortality. While other causes also play a significant role in causing indirect maternal deaths, such as conditions of cancer, kidney, heart disease, tuberculosis or other diseases suffered by the mother[1]. Labor and birth are physiological processes that accompany life almost every woman. Although the process is physiological, it is generally frightening, because it is accompanied by severe

pain, sometimes even causing strong physical and psychological conditions, one of which is the support of the husband. The benefits of the presence of a husband play an important role in following this whole process, the husband can help, support his wife in the seconds of contraction, massage his wife's back, and others. The psychological factors of the mother are no less important for the smooth running of a labor process. Motede reduces the pain that is continuously transmitted in the form of support for benefits: helping the progress of labor, better birth outcomes, motherhood, etc [2].The importance of the presence of a husband or person who supports and is in the delivery room. The concept of the presence of a husband during childbirth has been widely recognized, not because of his medical benefit, but because he prepares and teaches husbands to be responsible parents, and promotes fathers' ties to children by giving fathers the opportunity to take an active role in parenting immediately after giving birth [3].Most childbirth can run smoothly, but it does not mean without danger because changes in circumstances can occur at any time which endangers the mother and fetus. Thus each birth always requires supervision so that appropriate help can be given. The presence of a companion during labor will have a good impact, because it can provide a sense of comfort, and security. Spirit and emotional support that can be encouraging, reduce pain and speed up the labor process. Unattended labor will have the effect of fear that can cause tension and cause his disorder, and eventually labor runs smoothly.Childbirth companion plays an important role in the birth process. Loving support reduces the mother's need for painkillers and medical intervention in labor [4]. Factors that influence the smooth running of labor include: power (his, energy), passage, passenger (fetus, placenta), psychic (one of which is influenced by labor companion), position, place of delivery, and helper. A mother who enters labor will have a feeling of fear, worry, or anxiety. This fear will cause stress and spur the release of adrenal hormones which will result in narrowing of the arteries and reduce the blood flow that carries oxygen to the uterus so that there is a decrease in uterine contractions that can inhibit labor[5].

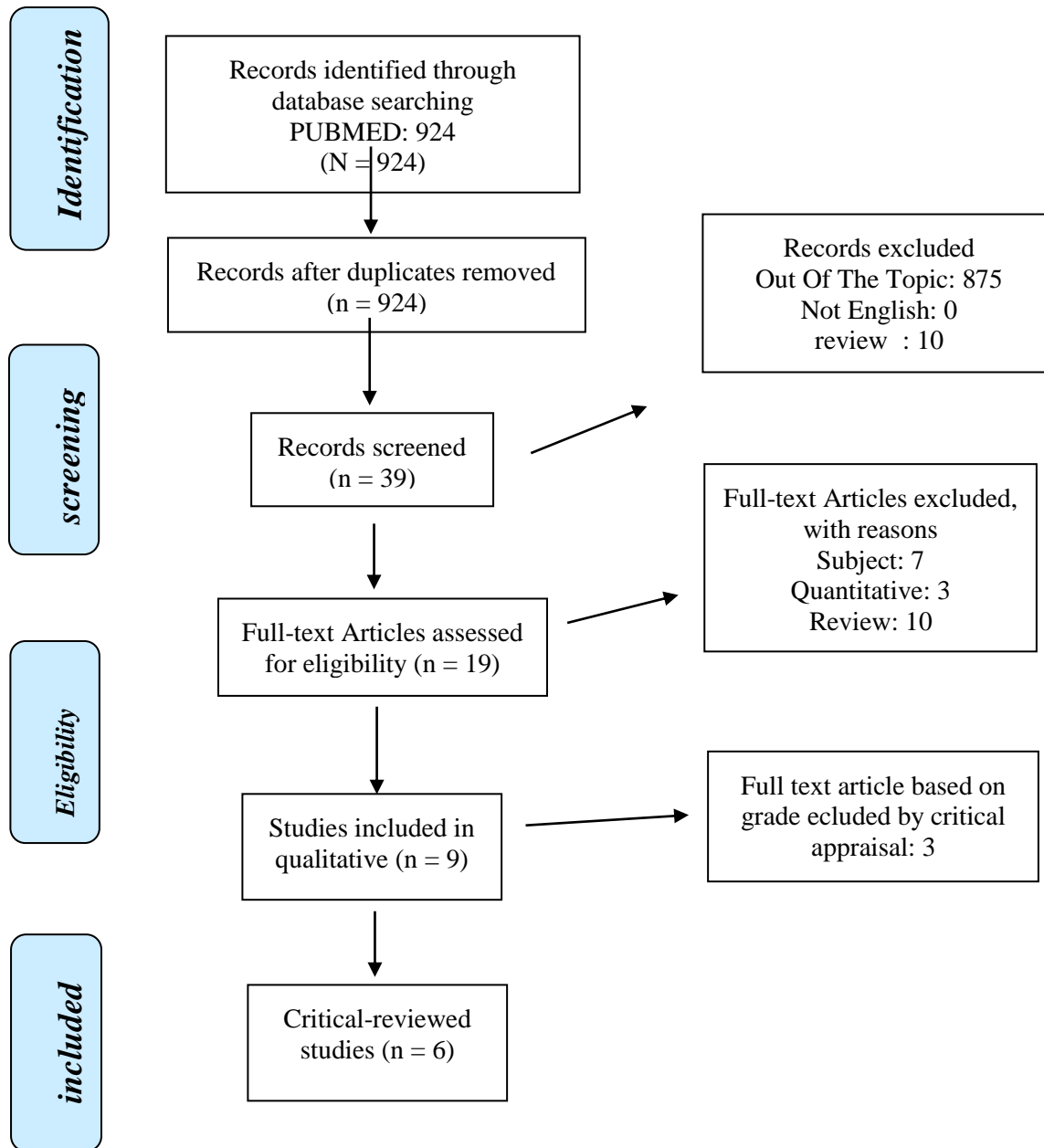
## 2. METHODS

The research question in this review is 1) To find out the influence of the husband's role when mentoring the smooth delivery process 2) To find out the factors of the husband's role when mentoring the smooth delivery process. To identify relevant studies in the articles used to do a systematic search that fits the objectives and research questions in several bases data. The source of information was obtained from the database, PubMed. The search strategy method for getting journals using key word ("husbands participation") OR "husband" "childbirth" OR smooth delivery "\* free full text \* 10 years". with the inclusion criteria in this review is an article about qualitative methods by discussing description of husband's role in the assistance of laboring process. The framework used in this review is PEOS (*Population, exposure / Event, Outcomes, Sutdy desing*).

**Table 1. Framework penelitian**

Element	Inclusion	Exclusion	Rational
<b>Population</b>	Pregnant women and husbands who accompany labor	Pregnant women with labor complications	
<b>Exposure/event</b>	Assistance in labor		
<b>Outcomes</b>	Smooth delivery		
<b>Study design</b>	All relevant studies		

To criticize the author's journal articles using the The Joanna Briggs Institute Critical Appraisal Tools Instrument method, this instrument identifies the literature through Screening questions after passing through screening questions and can then proceed through Detailed Questions. The method is to reduce the bias present in the Systematic literature Review study. The form of synthesis that will be presented in a systematic literature review is identification, screening, eligibility, and included and presented data included in the flow diagram of data results.



**Table 2. Data Extraction**

No	Title / Author / Year / Level / Country	The purpose	Design / Method	Data Collection	Participants / Number of samples	Result
1	The role of husbands in maternal health and safe childbirth in rural Nepal: A qualitative study Q1	This study examines the role of husbands in safe delivery for their wives, their opinions on the needs of women and children, the factors that influence or inhibit their role as companions, and how women feel about their involvement in labor.	Qualitative	Interview	In-depth interviews were carried out on husband 17, wife 15, mother-in-law 3, and health worker 7.	The results obtained in this study, husband's involvement in maternal health and safe delivery. Husbands do have a role to be in labor. A considerable desire for husband's involvement was also expressed by the parents of the wife who was pregnant. It is important to recognize that the husband's role is important and is shaped by many factors, such as the availability of husbands, cultural beliefs, and traditions.
2	Husbands' experiences of supporting their wives during childbirth in Nepal. Q2	To find out the experiences of husbands in supporting and accompanying their wives during labor.	Qualitative	Interview	Total respondents were 12 fathers who supported their wives during labor to take part in the study. Of the 12, six husbands supported their wives during pregnancy and childbirth, while others only did so during labor alternating with family members. All wives want to give birth normally.	This research is to find out the experience of the husband, and also to examine further what must be done on the needs and expectations of the husband during the period of pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum delivery.

3	The role of fathers during pregnancy: A qualitative exploration of Arabic fathers' beliefs Q1	To find out a deeper understanding of father's involvement in their wife's pregnancy and childbirth.	Qualitative	Interview	The total sample consisted of 19 fathers: nine from Saudi Arabia and 10 from Jordan. Fathers range from 22 to 41 years, and their education level.	The results of this study describe experienced fathers during their wives' pregnancies and provide more understanding of their involvement in labor.
4	Husbands' involvement in delivery care utilization in rural Bangladesh: A qualitative study Q1	husband's involvement during labor and utilization of professional delivery services.	Qualitative	Interview	20 husbands interviewed.	The results of this study that husbands whose wives with childbirth care provide emotional support, and provide information to their wives during labor must believe that medical action is needed. Conversely, a husband whose wife is not trained at home and is not involved during labor will believe that labor must be carried out at home according to local traditions.
5	The Roles of the Father During Childbirth: The Lived Experiences of Arab Syrian Parents Q1	In our study, we examined the role of a father during labor as perceived by parents.	Qualitative	Interview	Samples from 23 mothers and 14 fathers were taken in this study.	The presence of the father during labor is a very important problem for the mother, but there is no need for a physical presence of the father in the delivery room, especially during labor and removal of the placenta. Most women prefer their mothers to accompany during childbirth. Father's physical presence is very important when giving support and encouragement. The role of fathers to

- 6 Male involvement during pregnancy and childbirth: men's perceptions, practices and experiences during the care for women who developed childbirth complications in Mulago Hospital, Uganda  
Q1
- To get a deeper understanding of the experience of husband's involvement in the care of their wife's pregnancy and childbirth.
- Qualitative Interview
- 16 husbands interviewed.

accompany if given the opportunity other than that, general health and social policies in most Arab-Islamic countries do not encourage fathers to accompany during labor.

The results of this study that information about the role of companions, hopes, experiences and challenges faced by husbands who want to be involved in their wife's health problems, especially during pregnancy and childbirth. There are disputes between policies and practices regarding the involvement of husbands in pregnancy and childbirth.

### **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The results of a systematic literature review of 6 journals found that there was a significant effect, namely assisting husbands with the smooth delivery of labor is very important for the smooth delivery. Assistance interventions for husbands have success for the smooth delivery process. Explained as follows: According to the Journal of BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth, it is important that the husband's involvement in the health of the mother in safe childbirth is important, indeed the husband has a role in being in labor. Both parents also argued that husband's involvement was also important in assisting the wife who was giving birth [9]. According to the Journal Midwifery, her husband's experience, husband's needs and expectations during pregnancy, childbirth, and after the birth of his wife are very important, all the needs of the wife must be fulfilled after delivery by the husband. Hope the husband also wants the smooth delivery of his wife so that the husband also wants to be involved in the labor process [4]. According to the Journal Midwifery stated that husbands are experienced during their wives' pregnancies and provide a deeper understanding of their involvement in childbirth. The experience of husbands in assisting the delivery process also has a positive impact, wives who are accompanied by their husbands are more comfortable, calm, if their husbands are nearby. Husbands can also give understanding to their wives so that they do not panic, emotional and stress in labor [6]. According to the BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth journal that husbands whose wives with childbirth care provide emotional support, and can provide information to their wives during the labor process must believe that medical action is needed so the delivery process can be smooth. Because of the husband's support, the husband's belief that can convince their wife is very important, so that the mothers are confident and strong in their labor[11].

#### **a. The influence of the role of the husband when assisting the smooth delivery of labor**

The results of this study by [4] entitled "Husbands' experiences of supporting their wives during childbirth in Nepal" showed that this study was to find out the experiences of husbands, and also to examine what should be done for needs and expectations husband during his pregnancy, childbirth, and after the birth of his wife. The results of this study were [6] entitled "The role of fathers during pregnancy: A qualitative exploration of Arabic fathers 'beliefs" was found that the findings in this study described experienced fathers during their wives' pregnancies and provided understanding deeper about their involvement in labor. The results of this study [7] entitled "Husbands' involvement in delivery care in rural Bangladesh: A qualitative study" showed that husbands whose wives with delivery care provided emotional support, and provided information to their wives during the labor process must believe that medical action is needed. Conversely, a husband whose wife is not trained at home and is not involved during labor will believe that labor must be carried out at home according to local traditions.

#### **b. Factors husband's role in assistance of laboring process**

The results of this study by [8] entitled "The Roles of the Father During Childbirth Experiences of Arab Syrian Parents" found that the presence of a father during labor is a very important problem for the mother, but does not need a physical presence father in the delivery room, especially during labor and placental removal. Most women prefer their mothers to accompany during childbirth. Father's physical presence is very important when giving support and encouragement. The role of the father to accompany if given an opportunity other than that. General health and social policies in most Arab-Islamic countries do not encourage fathers to accompany during labor. The results of this study by [9] entitled "The role of husbands in maternal health and safe childbirth in rural Nepal" found that the involvement of husbands in the health of mothers in safe delivery, indeed the husband has a role to be in the



future giving birth. Both parents also argued that the involvement of the husband was also important in assisting the wife who was giving birth. It is important to recognize that the husband's role is important and is shaped by many factors, such as the availability of husbands, cultural beliefs, and traditions. The results of this study [10] entitled "Male involvement in pregnancy and childbirth: men's perceptions, practices and experiences during care for women who have developed childbirth complications in Mulago Hospital, Uganda" found that information about the role of companion, hopes, experiences and challenges faced by husbands who want to be involved in their wife's health problems, especially during pregnancy and childbirth. There are disputes between policies and practices regarding the involvement of husbands in pregnancy and childbirth.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The involvement of the husband in the health of the mother in childbirth is important, indeed the husband has a role to be in the labor period to accompany their wife. Helping to fulfill the wife's needs during the maternity process, the wife also feels more comfortable if accompanied by her husband. Experience during their wife's pregnancy and provide a deeper understanding of their involvement in labor. The experience of husbands in assisting the delivery process also has a positive impact, wives who are accompanied by their husbands are more comfortable, calm, if their husbands are nearby. Husbands can also give understanding to their wives so that they do not panic, emotional and stress during labor. All the needs of the wife must be fulfilled after delivery by the husband. The husbands want smooth laboring process of his wife so that husband also wants to be involved in laboring process, and accompanying his wife.

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