Determinants and Differentials of Maternal Reproductive Health Outcomes in Nigeria: A Review of National Demographic Health Survey Data from 1999 to 2013.

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Introduction
Nigeria is home to over 250 diverse ethno-cultural entities with different beliefs, nuances and practices relating to marriage, pregnancy and childbirth. Women face significant socio-cultural inequities resulting in poor health indices especially during pregnancy and after child birth (Ndep, 2014).

Maternal mortality ratio in Nigeria is 545/100,000 live births.
Most maternal deaths are from preventable causes (WHO, 2010).
Women and children continue to experience high rates of new HIV infections and HIV-related illness and death (FMoH, 2010), exacerbating the high mortality recorded among these segments of the population.

Objective
The main objective of this study is to determine the trends and differentials in maternal morbidity and mortality indices in Nigeria.

Methods
The study is a review and trend analysis of the National Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data from 1990 to 2013 as well as a review of secondary data from WHO, UNICEF and the World Bank.

Key Question
What are the factors driving or influencing observed trends in some major indices such as: total fertility rate (TFR), contraceptive use/non use, choice of birth attendant and/or choice of birth location?

Key Findings
Total Fertility Rates (TFR) among women 15-49 years has declined from 6.5 children per woman as reported in the 1990 NDHS survey to 5.5 children per woman in the 2013 survey.
In 2013, 35.8% of births were delivered by a skilled health provider, and 36% of the deliveries took place in a health facility (marginal increase-4% in 20 years).
Contraceptive prevalence among women ages 15-45 has increased from 6% in 1990 to 15% in 2013.

Reducing MMR in Nigeria will require an in-depth understanding of women’s beliefs and preferences during pregnancy and childbirth.
Socio-cultural and socio-religious role on
Early marriage and child birth
Contraceptive use or non-use
Choice between traditional birth attendants versus skilled health provider
HIV status/prevention of mother to child transmission
Health facility-related factors
Education and economic status

References