



# The Role of Traditional Birth Attendants in Reducing Neonatal Mortality Rates in Coastal Yemen: An African Perspective

Semedi Musoke<sup>1,2</sup>, Otombe Ssekituyo<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Surgery, Makerere University Business School (MUBS)

<sup>2</sup> Department of Epidemiology, Kyambogo University, Kampala

<sup>3</sup> Makerere University Business School (MUBS)

**Published:** 04 December 2004 | **Received:** 22 August 2004 | **Accepted:** 13 November 2004

**Correspondence:** [smusoke@aol.com](mailto:smusoke@aol.com)

**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18785147](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18785147)

## Author notes

*Semedi Musoke is affiliated with Department of Surgery, Makerere University Business School (MUBS) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

*Otombe Ssekituyo is affiliated with Makerere University Business School (MUBS) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Traditional birth attendants (TBAs) play a significant role in maternal and neonatal health across various African contexts. A mixed-methods approach combining quantitative data from health records and qualitative interviews with TBA practitioners was employed. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics for numerical findings and thematic analysis for qualitative insights. TBAs reported a 15% reduction in neonatal mortality rates compared to non-TBA managed births (95% CI: -30%, 5%). Interviews revealed that TBAs' knowledge of local birthing practices, early recognition of complications, and provision of basic first aid significantly contributed to improved outcomes. The findings suggest the potential for increased collaboration between traditional birth attendants and formal healthcare systems to enhance neonatal survival rates in coastal Yemen. Healthcare providers should integrate TBAs into community-based maternal health programmes, offering training and supplies while respecting cultural practices. Treatment effect was estimated with  $\text{text}\{logit\}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta^T p X_i$ , and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

**Keywords:** *African geography, Traditional birth attendants, Neonatal mortality, Quantitative methods, Qualitative data analysis, Community health models, Indigenous healthcare systems*

## ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

**Email:** [info@parj.africa](mailto:info@parj.africa)

Request your copy of the full paper today!

## SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

**Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!**

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

**Submit at:** [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)



Scan to visit [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)

**Open Access Scholarship from PARJ**

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge