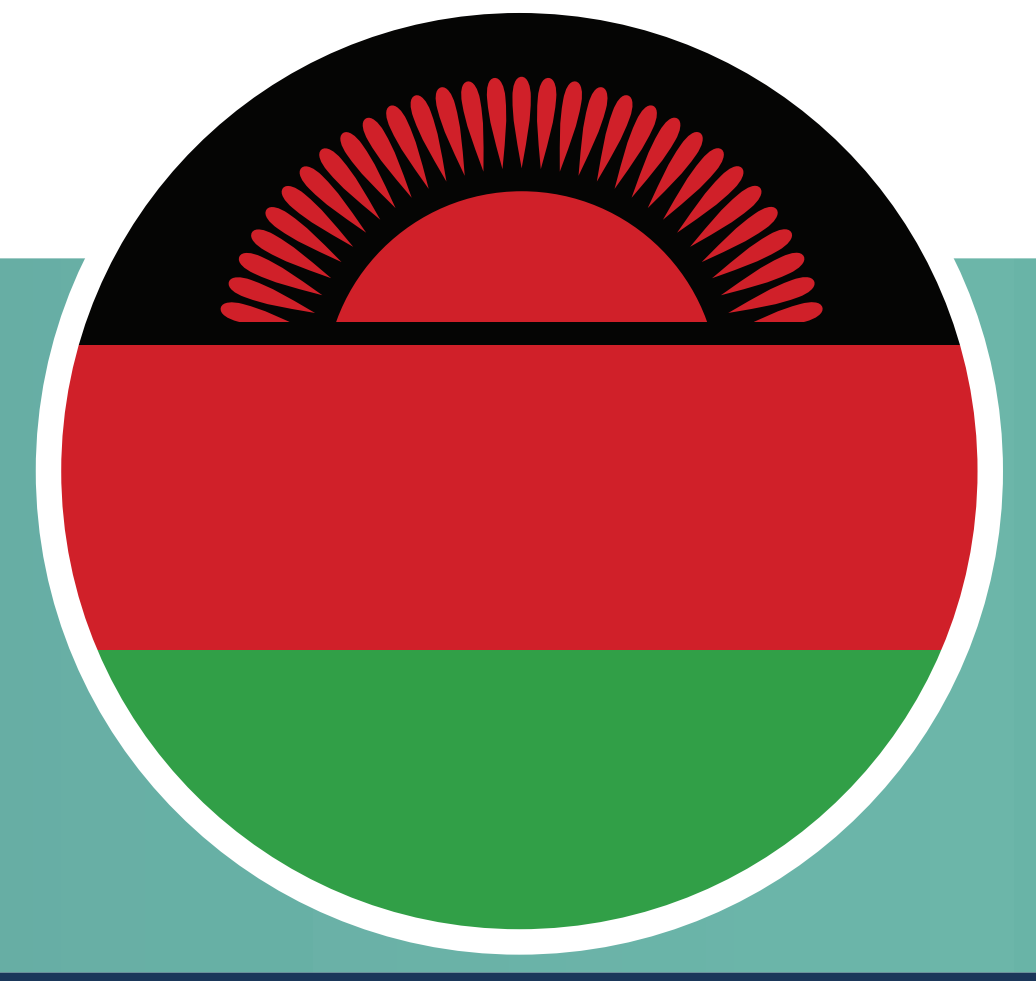




Quality, Equity, Dignity

A Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health



MALAWI

Core demographic data

Population	17 251 000
Fertility rate per woman	5
Total maternal deaths in 2015	3 400
Neonatal Mortality Rate	27 per 1,000 live births
Stillbirth rate	21.8 per 1,000 births

Coverage of key interventions

	%
Demand for family planning satisfied	75
Antenatal care (4 or more visits)	45
Skilled attendance at delivery	87
C-section rate	5
Early initiation of breastfeeding	95
Exclusive breastfeeding	70
Postnatal visit for baby	81
Postnatal care for mother	75

Policies

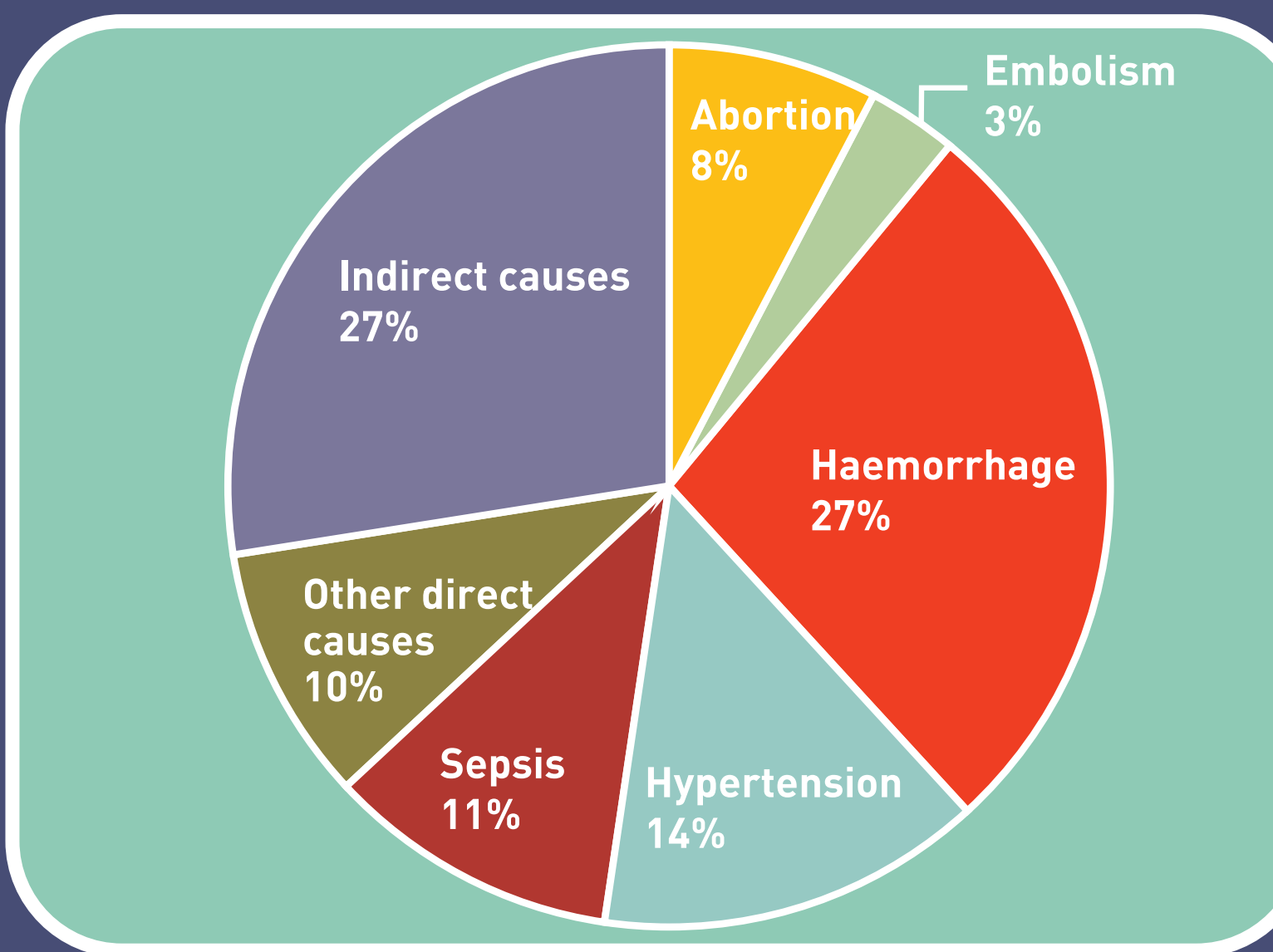
Midwives authorised for specific tasks (x of seven)	7 of 7
Maternal deaths notification	Yes
Postnatal home visits in first week after birth	Yes
Kangaroo mother care in facilities for low birth-weight/preterm newborns	Yes
Antenatal corticosteroids as part of the management of preterm labour	Yes
International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes	Yes

Systems

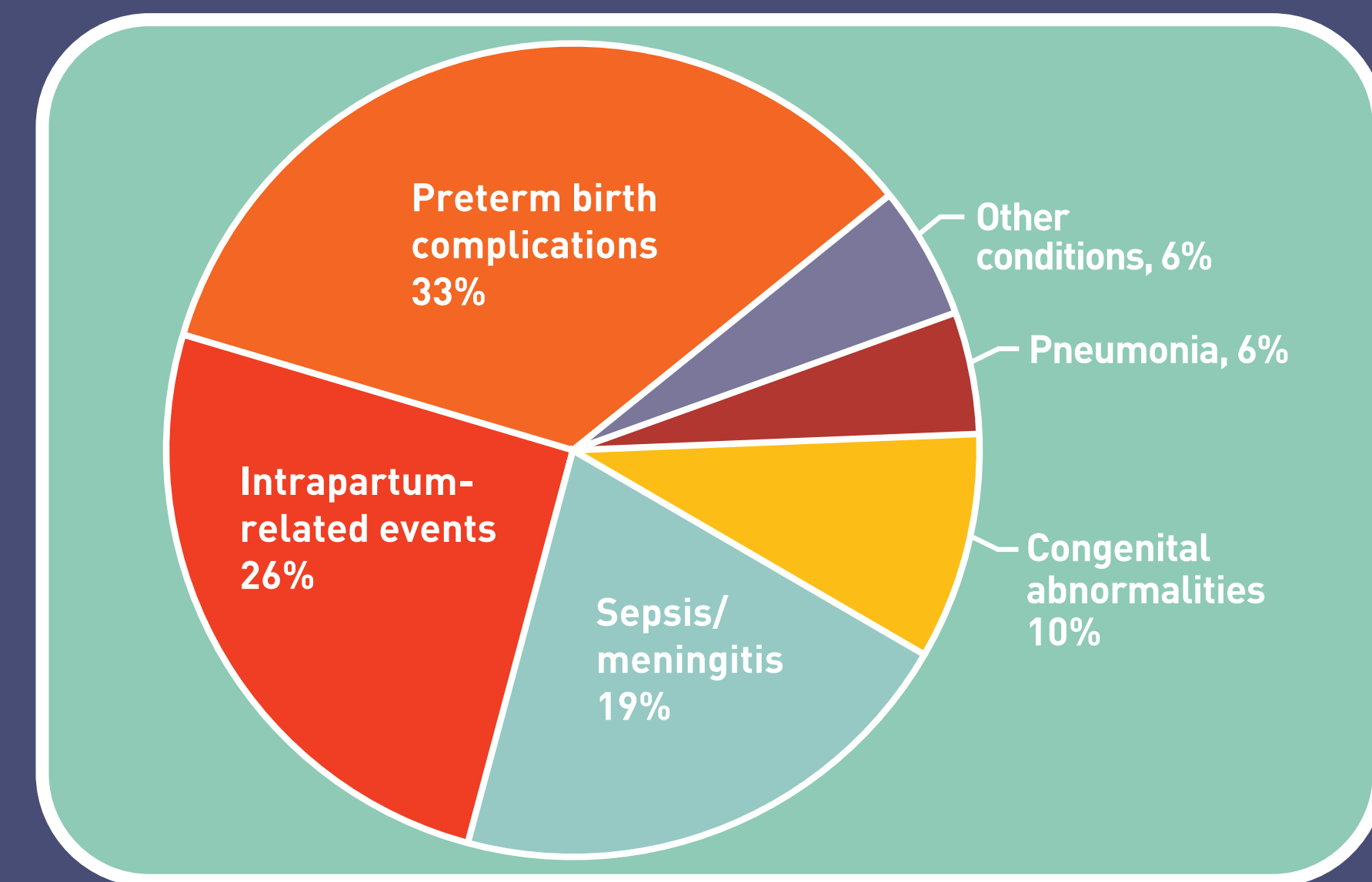
Costed National Implementation plan(s) for maternal, newborn, child health available	Yes
Maternal and Newborn Lifesaving Commodities on the national Essential Medicine list:	
Reproductive Health (x of 3)	2
Maternal Health (x of 3)	3
Newborn Health (x of 4)	4
Child Health (x of 3)	3
Density of Doctors, Nurses and Midwives (per 10,000 population)	3.6
National Availability of Emergency Obstetric Care Services (% of recommended minimum)	40

Causes of death

Global Causes of Maternal Mortality (2016)



National Causes of Newborn Mortality (2015)



Snapshot of readiness to improve quality of care

Leadership	Plans, strategies & standards	Data	Supporting systems
Functional Leadership Structure for Quality Improvement	National Quality of Care Strategy for the Health Sector	National Situational Analysis for Quality of Care up to date	Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response System established
Quality of Care Committees established in District Health Management Teams	National Strategy for Maternal and Newborn Health addresses Quality of Care	Assessment of Quality of Care in Health Facilities completed in the past two years	13 Maternal and Newborn Lifesaving Commodities on the Essential Medicine list
	National Quality of Care Standards and Protocols		Water Coverage in Health Care Facilities (%)
			Skilled attendance at delivery (%)
			National Availability of EmOC (%)

Achieved In process Not started No data

Governance of quality of care improvement

A Quality Management Unit is established. The purpose and function is set out clearly on the Organigram. The Reproductive Health Department and the Child Health Department are both represented in a Quality Improvement Technical Working Group.

Structure for quality management unit

Quality management unit (QMU) Director

Purpose:
To promote and enforce the mainstreaming of quality of healthcare at all levels across the health system.

Functions:
1. The development and dissemination of standards, norms, protocols and guidelines for quality management.
2. The exploration establishment and facilitation of quality improvement initiatives and programmes.
3. The monitoring and supervision of quality improvement programmes and initiatives implementation at various levels of health system

Deputy Director Standards and norms section 1 x Chief QM Officer

Deputy Director Quality improvement section 2 x Chief QM Officer

Deputy Director Monitoring and evaluation section 5 x Chief QM Officer

Quality of Care Plans and Strategies

The National Health Strategic Plan (2017-2021) has been drafted and is near finalization. Aligned with this Plan, the National Quality Management Policy and Strategy is also near finalization.

The National Sexual and Reproductive Health and Maternal, Newborn and Child Plans are to be revised to include Quality Improvement and Management. These currently do describe the components of the MAPUTO PLAN OF ACTION one which is the Universal Access to Quality Safe Motherhood and Child Survival Services.

Key data sources including Health Facility Assessments

- EMOC assessment (2010) and (2015)
- DHS (2001), (2010) and (2015)
- Health Facility Assessment for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (2015) - Quality of Care Assessment using the MNCH adopted tool in six districts; these are Kasungu, Mzimba, Lilongwe, Zomba, Thyolo and Mangochi and plans are afoot for Mwanza district. See Table 1.

Table 1: Maternal care - summary scores by standard for each facility

Components assessed	Patient flow	Maternity ward staffing	Infection control	Supportive care	Essential drugs	Equipment and supplies	Management of eclampsia & pre-eclampsia	Standard					
								B1. Emergency obstetric care	B2. Maternity wards	B3. Infection control & supportive care	B4. Essential drugs equipment & supplies	B5. Antepartum care	
								5	4	3	2	1	
Location 1: Lilongwe								5	4	3	2	1	
HF 1													
HF 2													
HF 3													
HF 4													
HF 5													
HF 6													
HF 7													
Location 2: Thyolo								5	4	3	2	1	
HF 1													
HF 2													
HF 3													
HF 4													
HF 5													
HF 6													
HF 7													

Partnerships for quality of care improvement

Many partners are supporting quality improvement work in Malawi including WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, Maikhandu, GIZ, DFID, Norway, USAID, Save the Children International, Lighthouse, JH-PIEGO, CHAI, Institute for Health-care Improvement, Liverpool School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Management Sciences for health, BMGF, SSID, PACCHI. Additionally, specific partnerships have been established with professional associations and the Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

References

- Countdown to 2015, 2015 report. See <http://countdown2015.org/>
- Maternal Death Surveillance and Response Country Profiles (WHO 2016). See http://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/epidemiology/maternal-death-surveillance/country-profiles/
- Causes of Maternal Death: Say L, Choi D, Gemmill A, Tunçalp O, Moller AB, Daniels JD, et al. Global causes of maternal death: a WHO systematic analysis. Lancet Glob Health 2014;2: e323-e333.
- Causes of Newborn Death: UNICEF 2016 <https://data.unicef.org/resources/maternal-newborn-health-disparities-country-profiles/>
- Water, sanitation and hygiene in health care facilities, WHO and UNICEF (2016). See http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/154588/1/9789241508476_eng.pdf?ua=1
- All other data received from the relevant Ministry of Health and UNICEF and WHO Country Offices.

Get involved: www.qualityofcarenetwork.org