



# Current Guidelines on Newborn Health of the World Health Organization

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# Outline

- Focus on priority interventions
- Types of guidelines
- References materials and sources



# Ending preventable deaths

REPRODUCTIVE  
CARE

TREATMENT  
FOR  
PREGNANCY  
COMPLI-  
CATIONS

PRE-  
CONCEPTION  
CARE

CARE DURING  
PREGNANCY

Labour and childbirth care

- Labour monitoring
- Childbirth care

Obstruction/Fetal distress: *CS, vacuum*

PT labour: *corticosteroids, antibiotics for PPROM*

Essential newborn care

- Birth: drying, skin-to-skin
- First week: early/excl. BF, warmth, cord care, hygiene

Not breathing at birth: *Resuscitation*

Suspected sepsis: *Early antibiotic treatment*

Preterm/LBW: *Kangaroo Mother Care, BF support, immediate treatment of suspected infection*

**The time around childbirth and the first day of life: a critical window of opportunity to prevent and manage complications**

### 1 Preterm birth



1. Preterm labor management including antenatal corticosteroids\*
2. Care including Kangaroo mother care, **essential newborn care**

### 2 Birth complications (and intrapartum stillbirths)

1. Prevention with obstetric care \*
2. **Essential newborn care**, and resuscitation\*

### 3 Neonatal infections

1. Prevention, **essential newborn care** especially breastfeeding, Chlorhexidine where appropriate\*
2. Case management of neonatal sepsis \*

\* Prioritised by the UN Commission on Life Saving Commodities for Women and Children

**Over two-thirds of newborn deaths preventable – actionable now without intensive care**

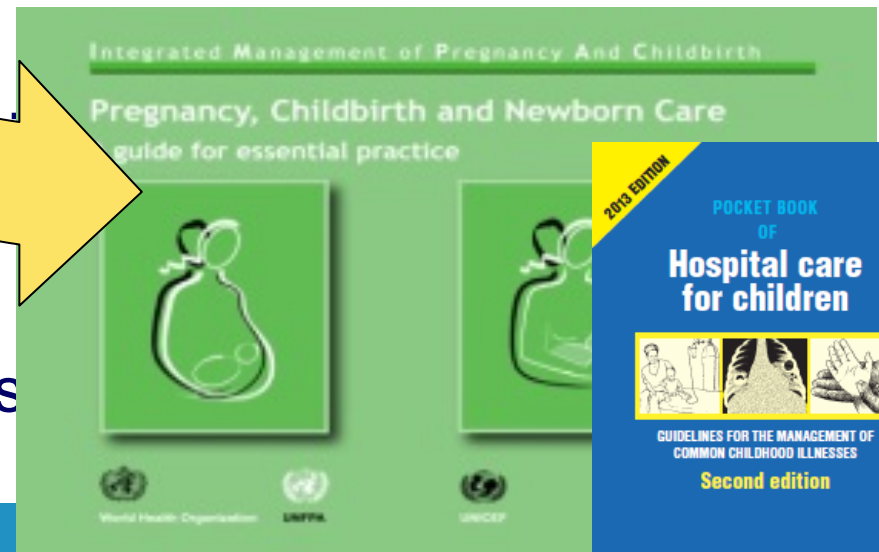
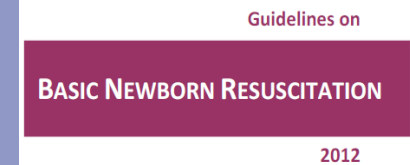
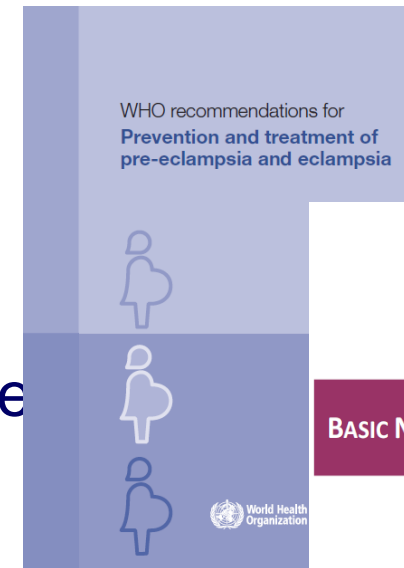
# CRITICAL NEWBORN INTERVENTIONS

1. Management of pre-term birth
2. Skilled care at birth
3. Basic Emergency Obstetric Care
4. Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric Care
5. Basic Newborn Care
6. Neonatal resuscitation
7. Kangaroo mother care for premature and small babies
8. Treatment of severe infections
9. Inpatient supportive care for sick and small newborns

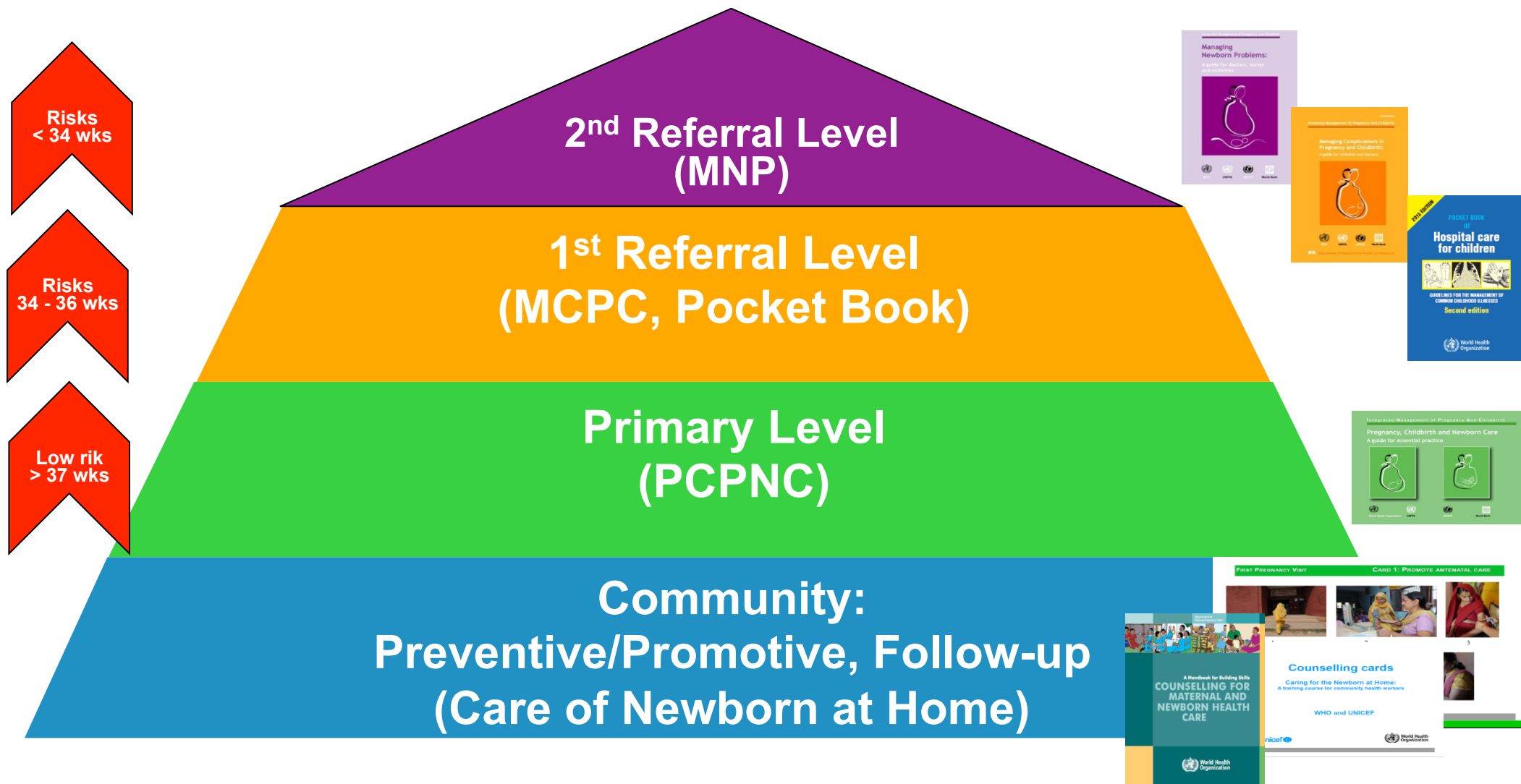


# Types of WHO Guidelines

- Rapid advice guidelines:
  - response to a public health emergency
- **Standard guidelines**
  - guidance in relation to a change in practice in a single clinical or policy area
- Full guidelines
  - complete coverage of a health area
- **Compilations of guidelines**
  - contains current recommendations from various sources, but does not include any new recommendations

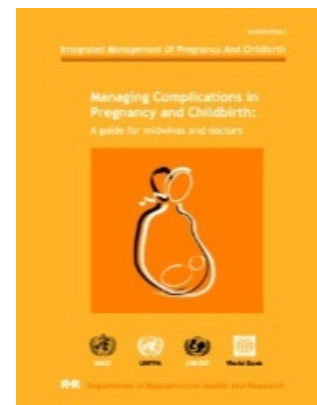
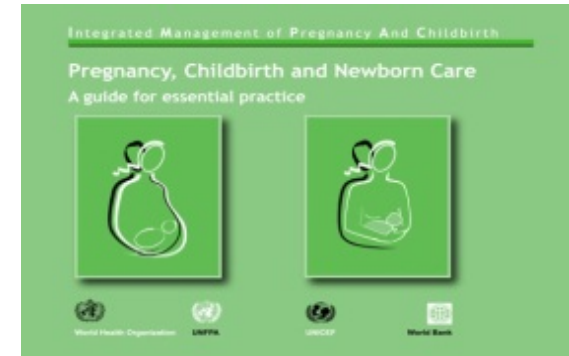


# Guidance by Levels of Care



# Management of Preterm Birth

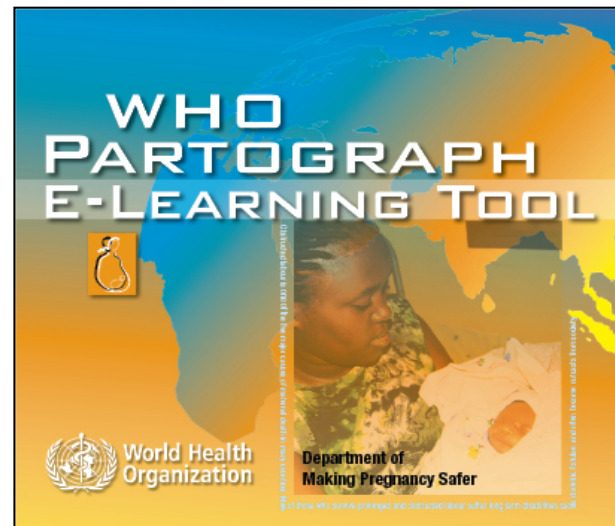
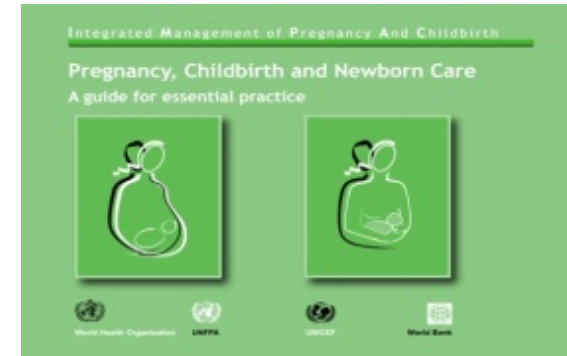
- Birth preparedness
- Detection of complications and initial management
- Management of:
  - **Use of antenatal corticosteroids**
  - Pre-eclampsia/ecclampsia
  - Preterm labour
  - (Preterm) prelabour rupture of membranes (p)PROM
  - C-sections
- **Standard guidelines in development**





# Skilled Care at Birth

- Routine and emergency care for women and newborns during labour and delivery
- Use of the partograph



**PARTOGRAPH**  
USE THIS FORM FOR MONITORING ACTIVE LABOUR

**CERVICAL DILATATION**

10 cm												
9 cm												
8 cm												
7 cm												
6 cm												
5 cm												
4 cm												
TIME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

**FINDINGS**

Hours to active labour

Hours since ruptured membranes

Rapid assessment **13.7**

Vaginal bleeding (0 = -)

Amenorrhoea (menstruum started)

Contractions in 10 minutes

Fetal heart rate (beats/minute)

Urine voided

T (axillary)

Pulse (beats/minute)

Blood pressure (systolic/diastolic)

Cervical dilatation (cm)

Delivery of placenta (time)

Depth (time) given

Problem-note onset/describe below

RECORDS AND FORMS

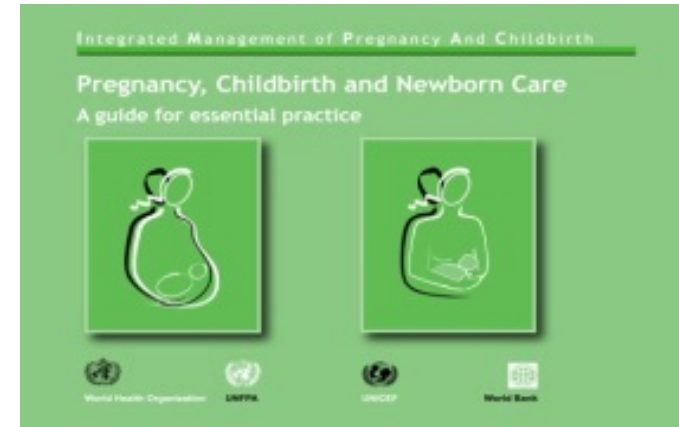
Partograph

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# Emergency Obstetric Care

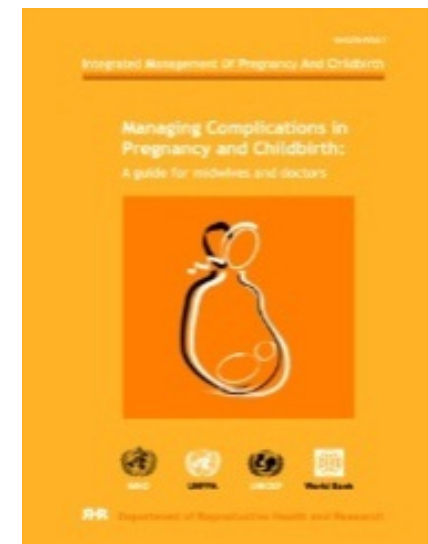
- Basic EmOC:

- routine and emergency care for women and newborns during pregnancy, labour and delivery, and postpartum



- Comprehensive EmOC :

- Managing complications in pregnancy and childbirth
- **Assist vaginal delivery**
- **C-sections**



# Basic Newborn Care

- Routine and emergency care for women **and newborns** during labour and delivery, postpartum
- **Focus on cleanliness, warmth, and feeding**
- Standard guidelines: Care of the newborn immediately after birth
  - Immediate drying and additional stimulation
  - Cord clamping
  - Skin-to-skin contact in the first hour of life
  - Initiation of breastfeeding
  - Vitamin K prophylaxis



# Cord Care

- Daily chlorhexidine (4%) application to the umbilical cord stump during the first week of life is recommended for newborns who are born at home in settings with high neonatal mortality (neonatal mortality rate >30 per 1000).
- Clean, dry cord care is recommended for newborns born in health facilities, and at home in low neonatal mortality settings. Use of chlorhexidine in these situations may be considered only to replace application of a harmful traditional substance such as cow dung to the cord stump.

(Strong situational recommendation, moderate quality evidence) Postnatal care guidelines for the mother and the newborn, 2013 (under review by WHO GRC)



# Management of Newborn Problems

- Neonatal resuscitation
- Kangaroo mother care
- Treatment of severe infections
- Inpatient supportive care for sick and small newborns
- **Standard guidelines in development:**
  - Management of the prematurely born infant (KMC)



# Optimizing Health Worker Roles for Maternal and Newborn Health

## ● Who to do what



	Lay Health Workers	Auxiliary Nurses	Auxiliary Nurse Midwives	Nurses	Midwives	Associate Clinicians	Advanced Level Associate Clinicians	Non-Specialist Doctors
1.1-1.13 Promotion of maternal, newborn and reproductive health interventions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7.1 Initiation of kangaroo mother care for low birth weight infants	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9.1 Neonatal resuscitation	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Newborn Health Recommendation

- Only GRC recommendations released after 2008



Thank you

