

## Satisfaction towards Skilled Delivery Services and Associated Factors among Mothers who Gave Birth at Government Health Facilities, Jimma Town, Ethiopia

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### Abstract

**Background:** Client satisfaction is patients' subjective responses to experienced care mediated by personal preferences and expectations. Allowing women to express their views about different phases of delivery service, the care provided by different health professionals provides richer information about the care they received. However, limited studies are available that assess mothers' satisfaction towards skilled delivery service in Jimma town government health facilities. So, the purpose of this study was to assess satisfaction on skilled delivery service and associated factors among mothers who delivered at Jimma town government health facilities.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional study involving both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection was used from March 5-May 10/2014. A total of 366 mothers were enrolled in the study using interviewer-administered structured questionnaires. In-depth interview was conducted for qualitative data. Data were analyzed using SPSS version 20.0. Logistic regression analysis was applied. The independent variables with  $p < 0.05$  in multiple analysis were considered as predictors of delivery service satisfaction. Qualitative data were thematically analyzed.

**Results:** In this study, 78.7% of mothers were satisfied with delivery services. Mothers who had planned delivery were 2.5 times more likely to be satisfied than those referral delivery cases (AOR 2.5 and 95% CI=1.2-5.6) and mothers who obtained free delivery services were 2.9 times more likely to be satisfied than mothers who paid (AOR=2.9 and 95% CI=1.3-6.4). Mothers who perceived the toilet was cleaned were 2 times more likely to be satisfied than their counterparts (AOR=2.0 and 95% CI=1.01-3.8) and mothers who felt being treated with respect were 1.7 times more likely to be satisfied than mothers who did not feel respected (AOR=1.7 and 95% CI=1.1-6.8) and mothers who perceived their privacy was maintained were 1.5 times more likely to be satisfied than their counterparts (AOR= 1.5 and 95% CI=1.9-9.5).

**Conclusion:** In general, more than three-fourth of mothers were satisfied with skilled delivery services. This study also revealed predictors of delivery service satisfaction: planned delivery, free delivery service, perceived cleanness of toilets, and perceived presence of privacy and empathetic interactions of staffs. As a recommendation, those health facilities should take into account mothers' feedback to improve the quality of delivery service.

**Keywords:** Skilled delivery service; Mother's satisfaction; Jimma town health facilities

(16 deaths per 100 000 live births). Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest regional MMR (510 deaths per 100 000 live births) [1].

**Abbreviations** ANC: Antenatal Care; AOR: Adjusted Odds Ratios; CI: Confidence Interval; COR: Crude Odds Ratios; HC: Health Center; JUSH: Jimma University Specialized Hospital; MDG: Millennium Development Goal; MMR: Maternal Mortality Ratio; OR: Odds Ratios; WHO: World Health Organization

In Ethiopia, MMR was estimated to be 420 per 100,000 live births in 2013 [1]. In other words, for every 1,000 live births about four women died during pregnancy, childbirth or within two months of childbirth. It has been shown that maternal mortality partially is attributed to unsatisfied institutional delivery experience which in turn leads to home delivery [2]. Traditionally, the quality of health care services was assessed from the provider's point of view or based on certain outcomes determined by the assessor, with no input from clients accessing the services. Over time, clients' perception of quality of healthcare services was being seen as an important measure in examining the quality of health care [3]. Patient satisfaction, as outcomes of healthcare services, has been emphasized as measures of quality healthcare services from the patient's perspective [4]. Donabedian (1988), the leading theorist in the area of quality assurance, postulated that client satisfaction may be considered to be

### Background

Globally, there were an estimated 289 000 maternal deaths in 2013. Sub-Saharan Africa region contributed 62% of those maternal deaths. Global maternal mortality ratio (MMR) in 2013 was 210 maternal deaths per 100 000 live births. MMR in developing regions (230 deaths per 100000 live births) was 14 times higher than in developed regions

one of the desired outcomes of care, even an element in health status itself. He defined patient satisfaction or dissatisfaction as the patient's judgment on the quality of care in all its aspects, particularly interpersonal process. He emphasized that client satisfaction is a measure of the quality of care because it gives information on the provider's success at meeting those client values and expectations [5].

Allowing women to express their views about different phases of delivery service, the care provided by different health professionals provides richer information about the care they received. Their own words provide a more realistic picture of the care they received [6]. Therefore, determining and knowing women's satisfaction with delivery service helps in avoiding barriers to women's satisfaction and enables to generate changes in health-seeking behavior [7].

The government of Ethiopia was committed in achieving MDG-5 to improve maternal health with a target of reducing maternal mortality ratio by three-quarters over the period 1990 to 2015. Accordingly, the federal ministry of health has applied multi-pronged approaches to reduce maternal mortality [8]. These approaches were improving access to and strengthening facility-based maternal and newborn services by implementing basic emergency obstetric care and improving referral systems [9]. Despite the notable achievements of these initiatives, only eleven percent of births were assisted by skilled attendance in 2013 [10]. Less than 1% of births were assisted by health extension workers and 57% of births were assisted by relatives. Twenty-eight percent of births were assisted by traditional birth attendant while 4 percent of births were unattended which was very far from the MDG target of 90% coverage [8].

Reasons given by researchers for low skilled birth attendance include; poor quality of maternal healthcare services, women's unhappy previous experience of institutional delivery service/don't trust health facility, disrespectful and abusive or poor quality of interpersonal care. Hence, women's dissatisfaction with childbirth services was cited as being responsible for under-utilization of facility-based childbirth services in Ethiopia [2,11].

To date, there have been very few facility-based studies focused on mother's satisfaction towards skilled delivery services in Ethiopia. Those studies also constituted only a small aspect of variables and therefore impossible to provide information on key variables that are likely to influence mother's satisfaction on delivery service and none had specifically assessed their future intention to use delivery services again. Therefore, this study was designed to assess satisfaction towards skilled delivery services among mothers who gave birth at government health facilities, Jimma town, South-West Ethiopia, 2014.

## Methods

### Study area and period

The study was conducted at Jimma town government health facilities from March 5-May 10/2014. Jimma town is located 357 km Southwest of Addis Ababa with a total projected population of 151,010. The town has five government health facilities (Jimma University Specialized Hospital, Shenen Gibe hospital, Jimma health centers, Higher 2 health centers and Mendera Kochi health centers). JUSH serves for a catchment population estimated to be 1.2 million people and the annual expected deliveries were 14400. In the 2013 fiscal year, this specialized hospital had conducted 4176 deliveries with an average monthly delivery of 346. Shenen Gibe hospital and the health centers serve for 185940 people with 6240 annual expected deliveries. In the

2013 fiscal year, Shenen Gibe hospital, Jimma HC, Higher 2 HC, and Mendera Kochi HC had conducted 446, 252, 228, and 122 deliveries with an average monthly delivery service of 37,21,19,11 respectively (Jimma town health office and JUSH).

### Study design

A cross-sectional study with both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection was employed. The qualitative data were used to support the findings of quantitative results.

### Source and study population

All postnatal mothers who were visiting Jimma town government health facilities for delivery service during the study period were the source populations. Sampled mothers who gave birth at those health facilities during the study period were the study population for quantitative data. Purposively selected postnatal mothers during the study period were included for an in-depth interview. Mothers were selected on basis of previous facility-based birth experience and based on the need of the study.

### Inclusion and exclusion criteria

All postnatal mothers who gave birth at Jimma town government health facilities were included. Those mothers who were critically sick to be interviewed and postnatal mothers with stillbirths or neonatal deaths at present pregnancy were excluded on the basis that women with stillbirth might give a misrepresented view and might affect the results of the study of this nature.

### Sample size

The sample size was determined using single population proportion formula with the following assumptions: P=proportion of satisfied mothers with delivery care service as 61.9% ( $p=0.619$ ) [12],  $Z_{\alpha/2}=95\%$  confidence interval,  $d$ =margin of error ( $d=4\%$ ). With the above assumptions, the formula yields 567. Since the number of average expected deliveries conducted in health facilities within study period was less than 10,000, correction formula was used as follow:  $nc=n/(1+n\sqrt{p})$   $nc=567/(1+567/868)$   $nc=344$ . Adding non-responses rate of 10%, a total sample size of 378 mothers were selected. From reviewing the annual document of skilled delivery services in the 2013 fiscal year, the average expected deliveries during the study period (two months) were 692,74,42,38 and 22 in JUSH, Shenen Gibe hospital, Higher 2 HC, Jimma HC and Mendera Kochi HC, respectively. Hence, the total expected deliveries during data collection period were 868. The total sample was allocated proportionally to each health facilities (two hospital and three health center). Thus, sample size for JUSH, Shenen Gibe hospital, Higher 2 HC, Jimma HC and Mendera Kochi HC were 298,36,17,16 and 11, respectively. For the in-depth interview, 22 postnatal mothers were involved.

### Sampling technique

The sampling interval for each health facilities (K) was determined by dividing the number of average expected deliveries during the study period by the sample size of each health facilities. Thus,  $K=2$  for each health facilities. Study participants were selected systematically. The first mother was selected by lottery method from their order of discharge. Every other mother just at the exit of the health facility was selected till the sample was fulfilled. For the in-depth interview,

postnatal mothers who were not included in the quantitative study were selected purposively on basis of women who had given birth in health facility previously and based on the need of the study.

### Data collection methods

Data were collected using structured, interviewer-administered questionnaires which were adapted from Labour and delivery satisfaction index questionnaires, birth satisfaction scale questionnaire, Jipi's postnatal satisfaction with nursing care questionnaires [13-17]. The questionnaires were comprised of 44 items. Level of satisfaction was indicated by selecting responses ranging from very dissatisfied=1, dissatisfied=2, neutral=3, satisfied=4, and very satisfied=5. These contextually adapted questionnaires were pre-tested in 5% of samples in JUSH before the actual data collection period and some questionnaires were changed. The satisfaction scale questionnaires had a reliability score ranging from 0.735 to 0.863 as shown below (Table 1).

Scale	Cronbach's alpha value
Organizational aspect questions	0.735
Technical aspect questions	0.862
Overall satisfaction scale questioners	0.838

**Table 1:** Reliability score for a measure of the satisfaction scale.

The questionnaires were translated into two local languages (Amharic and Afaan Oromo) by three independent translators and then back to English to make sure the questionnaires were clear and to check for consistency. Five female nurses who were not working in the study sites were recruited for data collection. Data collectors and supervisors were trained for two days before the actual data collection. Data collectors were those who were not working in the maternity ward to minimize interviewer bias. Qualitative data were collected through in-depth interview guide. The in-depth interview guide had probing questions on areas of skilled delivery service satisfaction (client-care provider interaction, information provision, respect to client and health facility-related factors) to collect their suggestions regarding on satisfaction/dissatisfaction. All information's were tape-recorded and field notes were taken and transcribed to texts immediately. Data were collected until saturation points of ideas had been reached. Both data were collected in the separate room in having women feel reassured that they could speak freely about satisfaction.

### Data processing and analysis

Questionnaires were checked for completeness, entered into Epi-data version 3.1, and then exported to SPSS version 20.0 for further analysis. Data were edited and cleaned for inconsistencies. Descriptive statistics were computed and logistic regression analysis was applied to see the association between dependent and independent variables. The variables with  $p < 0.05$  in multiple logistic regression model were considered as significant predictors of satisfaction towards delivery service. The odds ratio was used to determine the strength of association between selected variables. Additionally, to measure overall satisfaction level indirectly respondents were asked 'how likely are you to recommend this facility for delivery care to your family or friends?' and 'how likely are you to deliver in this same facility again?' The response categories were 'very likely,' 'somewhat likely,' neutral 'somewhat unlikely' and 'very unlikely'. During analysis, the responses

of 'very likely' and 'somewhat likely' were classified as 'likely' and responses of 'very unlikely' and 'unlikely' were classified as 'unlikely'. The response "unlikely" was considered as "dissatisfied" because unlikely responses were believed to reflect some reservation about the service received) [14].

For qualitative data, the in-depth interview was conducted with local languages and was transcribed and then translated into English. Next completed transcription was compared with handwritten notes to fill the gaps. The data were coded as "R1" for the first interviewed mother, R2, R3....R22 for the final interviewed mother and grouped based on thematic areas (two thematic areas-health facility related and care-provider related). Concepts were extracted from themes and presented in narratives and used to support quantitative results.

### Operational definitions

**Satisfaction:** Meeting perceived needs and expectations of mothers in relation to process and health institution aspects of delivery service as measured by 5 point Likert scale questions.

**Cut off point for satisfaction:** Since each item had 5 points Likert scale which ranges between 1 and 5; the scores were calculated by summing the answers to all items. Cut off point was calculated using the demarcation threshold formula:  $\{(total\ highest\ score - total\ lowest\ score) / 2\} + Total\ lowest\ score$  [18,19].

**Mothers overall satisfaction level:** By summing up the response of 19 satisfaction questions those who were satisfied above the cut point were categorized as satisfied and those who were satisfied less than cut point were categorized as dissatisfied [18,19].

**Waiting time:** Perceived time interval from arrival of the mother at the hospital/health center until first registered. The actual waiting time this is less than 30 min.

### Ethical Consideration

The ethical clearance was obtained from the institutional review board of collage of public health and medical sciences, Jimma University. A formal letter was submitted to each respective health facilities. Written consent was obtained from the study participants. To ensure privacy and confidentiality, the exit interview was conducted where questions and answers could not be overheard. Identifying information including name was not recorded in questionnaires.

### Results

A total of 366 postnatal mothers were enrolled in the study with the response rate of 96.8%; of which 78.8% were from JUSH, 9.3% from Shenen Gibe hospital, 4.4% from Higher 2 HC, 4.4% from Jimma HC and 3.0% from Mendera Kochi health center.

### Socio-demographic characteristics

The average age of postnatal mothers was  $25.45 \pm 4.9$  years. Two hundred thirty-three (64%) mothers came from urban and 90.4% were married. Regarding ethnic and religious distribution, the dominant ethnicities were Oromo (68.1%) while the dominant religion was Muslim (51.1%). One hundred ninety-eight (54.1%) mothers were housewives and 37.1% of mothers attended primary education. More than half of mothers had an average family monthly income between 500-1500 Ethiopian birr (Table 2).

Socio-demographic variable		Number (n=366)	Present
Age	≤ 20	69	18.9
	21-34	250	68.3
	35-49	47	12.8
Marital status	Married	331	90.4
	single	19	5.2
	Divorced/widowed	16	4.4
Religion	Muslim	187	51.1
	Orthodox	107	29.2
	Protestant	63	17.2
	Others	9	2.5
Ethnicity	Oromo	249	68.1
	Amara	39	18.1
	Gurage	29	7.9
	Others (Yem, Kefa, Dauro)	45	12.3
Occupation	Housewife	97	54.1
	Marchant	42	11.5
	Government employee	38	10.4
	Private employee	38	10.4
	Farmer	33	8.8
	Others	17	4.6
Educational level	No formal education	113	30.9
	Primary education	136	37.7
	High school education	75	20.5
	College education	42	11.5
Residence	Urban	234	63.9
	Rural	132	36.1
Monthly family income in cash (approximately)	<500	126	34.3
	500-1500	206	56.4
	>1500	34	9.3

**Table 2:** Socio-demographic characteristics of mothers who gave birth at Jimma town Health Facilities, Ethiopia, 2014.

### Obstetrics characteristics of postnatal mothers

Among the total participants, nearly half of them (49.3%) had 2 to 5 deliveries. Three hundred twenty-one (87.7%) respondents agreed that their current delivery was wanted. Half (50.5%) of mothers had attended four and more ANC visits. More than half of mothers (55.5%) had visited the health facilities for referral delivery from other health facilities. Around a quarter (24.7%) of mothers gave birth by caesarean

section. Two hundred sixty mothers (71.0%) stayed on labour less than 12 hours and about three-fourths (76.1%) of mothers were normal immediately after delivery (Table 3).

Obstetric characteristics		Number (n=366)	Present
Parity	One	141	38.3
	Two-five	182	49.3
	More than five	42	11.4
Status of pregnancy	Wanted	321	87.7
	Unwanted	44	12.3
ANC visits	One	20	5.5
	Two	35	9.5
	Three	126	34.5
	Four and more	185	50.5
Reason for health facility visit	Planned delivery	163	44.5
	Referral delivery	203	55.5
Mode of delivery	Assisted vaginal delivery	275	75.3
	Caesarian section	91	24.7
Duration of last delivery	<12	260	71.0
	12-24	89	24.3
	>24	17	4.6
Maternal condition after delivery	Normal	278	76.1
	With complication	87	23.9

**Table 3:** Obstetric characteristics of mothers who gave birth at Jimma town health facilities, Ethiopia, 2014.

In this study, three hundred four (83.1%) of mothers admitted in the ward within 30 min. Almost three fourth (74.6%) of mothers obtained free delivery service. More than half of mothers (58.2%) perceived that the toilet was not cleaned and almost three-fourths of mothers (77.6%) responded that the delivery room was not cleaned. Regarding care provider interaction, two hundred sixty-six (72.7%) of mothers responded that staffs showed politeness, courtesy, and respect to mothers. The majority, (68.6%), of mothers perceived that their confidentiality was assured and two third (61.2%) of mothers responded that their privacy was maintained during the examination (Table 4).

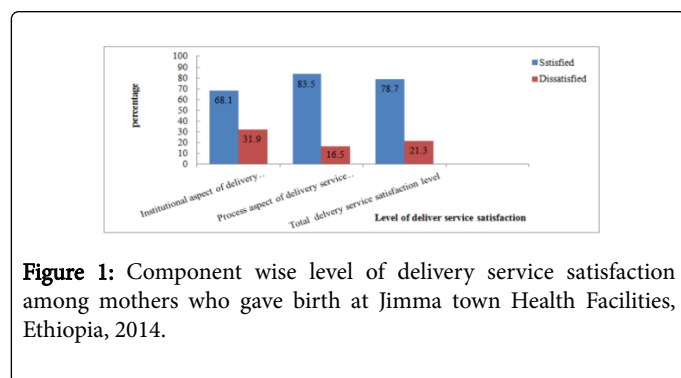
Variables		Number (n=366)	Present
Waiting time to be admitted	<30 min	304	83.1
	>30 min	62	16.9
Payment status	Free	273	74.6
	Paid	93	25.4
Waiting room cleanness	Yes	264	72.6

	No	102	27.4
Satisfied with the cleanness of toilets?	Yes	213	58.2
	No	153	41.8
Availability of staffs at any time you need?	Yes	254	69.4
	No	112	30.6
Has the confidentiality assured	Yes	251	68.6
	No	115	31.4
Has privacy maintained during the examination?	Yes	224	61.2
	No	142	38.8
Have staffs shown politeness, courtesy, respect (care provider interaction)?	Yes	266	72.7
	No	100	27.3
Obtained information and education service (family planning, breastfeeding, baby care)	Yes	248	67.8
	No	118	32.2

**Table 4:** Mother's response to the different dimensions of delivery services at Jimma town Health Facilities, Ethiopia, 2014.

### Level of mother's satisfaction on delivery service

In this study, two hundred eighty-eight (78.7%) of mothers were satisfied and the rest 21.1% were dissatisfied with skilled delivery services. Based on the component-wise level of satisfaction, 83.5% of mothers were satisfied with the process aspect of delivery services and 68.1% of mothers were satisfied with institutional aspect of delivery service. Meanwhile, dissatisfaction was higher in institutional aspect of delivery service 31.9% (Figure 1).



**Figure 1:** Component wise level of delivery service satisfaction among mothers who gave birth at Jimma town Health Facilities, Ethiopia, 2014.

In line with quantitative results, the interviews also showed that many mothers were happy, while some were unhappy as the quote below illustrates:

"...I would be totally lost if they weren't here, they have really helped me" (R7 JUSH).

Another interviewed mother from Shenen Gibe Hospital said that:

'...I think staffs were just really helpful, and I could get what I want during my stay" (R3 Shenen Gibe Hospital).

However, few of the interviewed mothers reported that there was still a problem in respecting clients. One participant said;

"...Majority of staff members had good respect to mothers, but some of the staffs show unexpected behavior and even insult our relatives and were still unethical...."(R17 JUSH)

Majority of the interviewed mothers from JUSH shared the idea that they were dissatisfied with the cleanness of toilets. One of the interviewed mother said that:

"..I was not happy with toilets because there was no water, was not tidy" (R2 JUSH).

Another interviewed mother from Higher 2 HC said that;

"...There was nothing bad but for me, I think the toilet was far away and not clean..." (R2 higher 2 HC).

Of all interviewed, majority of the respondents complained that the way privacy was maintained. One mother reported that:

"...I didn't expect to have such type of service, no one was following delivery procedures until the end, they were frequently changed, I think they were students and did not look after me, and that was just not good..." (R12 JUSH).

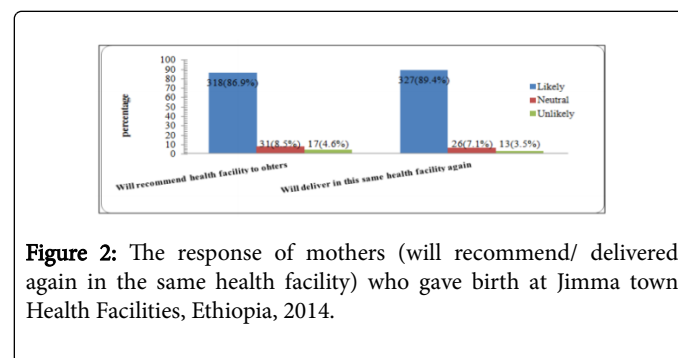
Another interviewed also said that:

"..I was not happy the way privacy was maintained during examinations because many students were around 245 me, so I did not feel comfort". I have been made frequent vaginal examination..." (R15 JUSH).

Mothers were asked about a sort of information they felt and they needed during discharge from health facility. For some mothers, it was information that would help them to develop their confidence in basic practical aspects of the care of their baby such as nappy changing, BF and bathing the baby. However, for few mothers a range of insufficient information was raised, as illustrated in the following:

"...Health professionals told me how to breastfeed, but I have not told how often I did breastfeed and how often I did change the baby nappy?".

To measure satisfaction of mothers indirectly, questions exploring the willingness of mothers to recommend the health facility to family or friends, and delivered in this same health facility again were asked. From these questions, 86.9% of mothers responded that they were likely to recommend this health facility to their family or friends. Regarding delivering in this same health facility again, 89.4% of mothers responded that they were likely to deliver in this same facility again (Figure 2).



**Figure 2:** The response of mothers (will recommend/ delivered again in the same health facility) who gave birth at Jimma town Health Facilities, Ethiopia, 2014.

### Factors associated with delivery service satisfaction

Multiple logistic regression analysis was conducted to control confounding. The results from multiple logistic regression model showed that five influential predictors of delivery service satisfaction out of thirteen reported from the crude analysis. These were the reason for health facility visit (planned delivery), payment status (free delivery service), cleanness of the toilets (cleaned), privacy maintained by the health staffs (privacy was maintained) and being treated with respect (yes) (Table 5).

Variables		Satisfied N (%)	COR	AOR	95% CI	
					Lower	Upper
Reason for health facility visit	Planned delivery	133 (90.3)	4.026	2.500	1.118	5.588
	Referral delivery	155 (68.0)		1		
Payment status	Free	230 (84.2)	3.289	2.864	1.273	6.440
	Paid	58 (57.7)		1		
Satisfied with the cleanness of toilets?	Yes	166 (88.1)	4.030	2.014	1.016	3.793
	No	122 (67.8)		1		
Being treated with respect	Yes	221 (85.9)	3.787	1.670	1.126	6.845
	No	67 (61.5)		1		
Did the privacy maintained during the examination?	Yes	182 (86.7)	3.137	1.471	1.278	9.463
	No	106 (67.9)		1		

**Table 5:** Multivariate analysis of predictor variables of mother's satisfaction at Jimma town Health Facilities, Ethiopia, 2014.

The regression analysis indicated that mothers who had planned delivery were 2.5 times more likely to be satisfied than those referral delivery cases (AOR 2.5 and 95% CI=1.2-5.6). Mothers who obtained free delivery service were 2.9 times more likely to be satisfied than mothers who paid for the services (AOR=2.9 and 95% CI=1.3-6.4). It was also observed that mothers satisfaction were affected by cleanness of toilets i.e. mothers who perceived that the toilet was cleaned were 2 times more likely to be satisfied than their counterparts (AOR=2.0 and 95% CI=1.01-3.8). Moreover, mothers who felt being treated with respect were 1.7 times more likely to be satisfied than mothers who did not be respected (AOR=1.7 and 95% CI=1.1-6.8) and mothers who perceived that their privacy was maintained by health staffs were 1.5 times more likely to be satisfied than their counterparts.

### Discussions

The overall proportion of mothers who were satisfied with the delivery service in this study was 78.7%. This percentage was lower compared to other studies in developing countries- Malawi (97.3%) [20], and it was comparable with a study in Wolaita zone, Southern Ethiopia (82.4%) [21], but it was greater than a study in Sri Lanka 48% [22], Nairobi Kenya (56%) [14], Sweden (67%) [23], South Africa (50.6) [24] and study done in Amhara region referral hospitals-Ethiopia (61.9%) [12]. The difference could be due to the subjective nature of satisfaction, and/or study period difference due to the

increased in expectation of mothers to the service they are going to receive with rapid advancement in technology and it might also be a real difference in quality delivery service provided or the type of health facilities in different settings. The underlying justifications for higher mothers' satisfaction with delivery service in Ethiopia might be the focus of attention for the government of Ethiopia to reduce maternal mortality.

The study also showed that 86.9% of mothers were likely to recommend this health facility for delivery service to their family or friends and 89.4% of mothers were likely to deliver in this same facility again. This percentage was higher than study conducted in Kenya in which 60% of women recommend the facility to others or to deliver there again [14] and in Amhara region referral hospitals in which 69.1% of mothers were very likely to recommend the hospital where they delivered to others and 68.8% of delivering mothers were likely to deliver in the hospital where they delivered again [12]. This difference suggested that the health facilities were providing an acceptable quality of delivery service and there was a substantial improvement.

In this study, there was no relationship between sociodemographic variables and overall level satisfaction. This could be due to the fact that most sociodemographic variables did not affect the overall level of satisfaction; hence they did not influence the mother's expectations. However, the reason for health facility visit, payment status, cleanness of the toilets, privacy maintained by the health staff and being treated with respect were predictors of satisfaction towards delivery service.

In this study, mothers who had planned delivery were 2.5 times more likely to be satisfied than those referral delivery cases. Mothers who had planned delivery might have high faith on the service as they were received during their last pregnancy and this contributed to their satisfaction with care. On the other hand, if mothers with referral delivery expected pleasant delivery service but had an unpleasant one, then they might be dissatisfied.

In this study, mothers who obtained free delivery service were 2.9 times more likely to be satisfied than mothers who paid for delivery service. This result was similar with the study done in India; in which the cost of the service was one of the seven key determinants of delivery care [7] and Amhara region referral hospitals [12]. This might be mother's expectation of cost of delivery service and the application of cost exempted service of delivery services.

A study done in South Africa, cleanliness of the ward and condition of toilets were areas requiring serious attention needing most urgent improvements [24]. In the current study, mothers who perceived that the toilet was cleaned were 2 times more likely to be satisfied than their counterparts. This reflected there was poor cleanness of toilets which should be improved. Moreover, mothers who felt being treated with respect were 1.7 times more likely to be satisfied than mothers who did not be respected. This was consistent with studies conducted in United States military hospitals [25], Ghana [26] and Nairobi Kenya [14]. Thus, this further strengthened the argument that interpersonal relationships including being treated with respect constituted an essential determinant of mother's satisfaction. If a positive caregiver attitude was attained, mothers would find the health facility safe enough to deliver again at the health facility. Similarly, the same result was obtained from the in-depth interview in which there were still problems with courtesy and respect by some health staffs [27].

During providing delivery services, respect for privacy was one of the aspects in which mothers were most satisfied. In this study, mothers who perceived that their privacy was maintained by health

staffs were 1.5 times more likely to be satisfied than their counterparts. This agreed with studies done in Sri Lanka [22] and Amhara region referral hospitals in which the absence of privacy was a means for dissatisfaction [12]. This reflected there was privacy breach which made mothers be dissatisfied. If the health facilities were safe enough because of inadequate privacy during the physical examination, this led to mothers might not use the health facilities in the future.

## Conclusions

In this study, more than three-fourths of mothers were satisfied towards skilled delivery services. Dissatisfaction was higher in the organizational aspect of delivery service than the technical aspects. This study also revealed predictors of satisfaction with skilled delivery services including; planned delivery, free delivery service, perceived cleanness of toilets, perceived presence of privacy maintained by the health staff and empathetic interactions of staffs. Therefore, those health facilities should use screens and curtains where more than one woman was delivering in the same room. The health facilities also should enhance cleanliness of toilets to improve the environment of the health facilities. The health facilities administrators should check curb irregularities in supplies of medications/delivery materials associated with deliveries to avoid informal payments. Thus, full application of cost exempted service should be applied for mothers coming for delivery.

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