

Exploring Content of Home-Based Care Education After Caesarean Section Provided by Nurse Midwives in Maternity Units

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Abstract : Background: Due to the increase of caesarean section (CS), many women are discharge early to their home. Women should be aware on how to take care of themselves at home after CS. Evidence shows non-uniform health education on home care after CS are provided to post CS mothers because of lack of standard home care guideline on home after CS; as existing guidelines explore only care of women in hospital setting, for health care workers. There is a need to develop post CS home care guide; exploring contents of home based care education after CS provided by nurse midwives will inform the development of the guide. Objective: To explore the content of health education provided by nurse midwives to post CS mother about home care after hospital discharge in Dodoma, Tanzania. Methodology: An exploratory qualitative study using in-depth interview was conducted in this study using triangulation of data collection method; where 14 nurse midwives working in maternity unit and 11 post CS mother attending their post-natal clinic were recruited. Content analysis was used to generate themes that describe health education information provided by nurse midwives to post CS mother about home care after hospital discharge. Results: The study found that, nutrition health education, maternal and newborn hygiene care of caesarean wound at home were the component of health education provided to post CS mothers by nurse midwives. Contradicting instruction were found to be provided to post CS mothers. Conclusion: This study reported non-uniform health education provided by the nurse midwives on home care after CS. Despite of the fact that nurse midwives recognizes the need to provide health education to the post CS mothers, there is a need to develop home care guideline as a reference for their education to ensure uniform package of education is provided to post CS mothers in order to improve recovery of post CS mothers from CS.

Keywords : caesarean section, home care, discharge education, homecare after caesarean section

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