



National Maternal Mortality Meeting, Issam Fares, AUBMC, April 24, 2013

On APRIL 24, 2013, the Women's Health Center- AUBMC, the Lebanese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, held the "National Maternal Mortality Meeting" at Issam Fares Auditorium- AUBMC, which was attended by around 130 colleagues.

Dr Anwar Nassar welcomed the audience highlighting the role of Dept of ObGyn in improving quality care in maternal and childbirth health. The speakers, Drs Adnan Mroueh, Fayez Bitar, and Walid Ammar (DG of MOPH) reflected on the global burden of maternal mortality focusing on the regional and local context where Lebanon witnessed a major improvement in maternal mortality from 104 in 100.000 live birth(1990's) to 25:100.000 live births in 2010 (WHO).

Dr Faysal El-Kak, coordinator of the Maternal Mortality Committee, reviewed and analyzed the total reported maternal mortality cases in 2011, 2012, and 2013 (till April), a total of 36 cases distributed all over Lebanon.

Analysis revealed that the causes of death fall in 3 main categories:

- 1) Postpartum Hemorrhage
- 2) Abnormal placentation
- 3) Hypertensive disorders

The causes were similar all over the country. Dr Muheiddine Seoud proceeded with a case analysis on abnormal placentation to show the importance of good preparation and team readiness in providing quality and immediate care to high risk deliveries.

The meeting was moderated by Drs Elie Attiyeh, Wadih Ghanme, and Imad Abu Jawdeh

There is was a consensus on few recommendations that will be followed and implemented in this regard, and these include:

1. Identification of high risk cases during antenatal care, namely abnormal placentation and hypertensive disorders by providing the appropriate tool for that (indicators, quality imaging)
2. Addressing the issue of rising rates of cesarean section
3. Centralization of care in relation to selected high risk cases (cesarean hysterectomies, severe hypertensive disorders cases)

These set of recommendations will be followed up by the Women's Health Center and the Lebanese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology with the Ministry of Public Health and other relevant parties