

Pregnancy care in adolescents

Training course in sexual and reproductive health research 2011

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with thanks to Dr Virginia Camacho and Dr Viviana Mangiaterra



**World Health
Organization**

- 1. Use of maternal health care by adolescents**

2. Ensuring that pregnant adolescents get the health care they need
3. Ensuring that pregnant adolescents get the social support they need

Pregnancy care in adolescents



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Use of maternal health care by adolescents

Studies show that in some – but not all – countries, adolescents are less likely than adults to obtain antenatal care and to get skilled care during delivery.

Sources:

1. H Reynolds, E Wong, H Tucker. Adolescents use of Maternal and Child Health Services in Developing Countries. *International Family Planning Perspectives*, 2006, 32 (1) 6-16.
2. M A Magadi, A O Agwanda, F A Obware. A comparative analysis of the use of maternal health services by teenagers and older mothes in sub Saharan Africa: Evidence from DHS. *Social Science and Medicine*, 2007 24, 1311-1325.

1. Use of maternal health care by adolescents
2. **Ensuring that pregnant adolescents get the health care they need**
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Preventing early pregnancy & poor reproductive outcomes among adolescents in developing countries



The story of Priya



Outcome 6 - Increasing use of skilled antenatal, childbirth, and postpartum care

Policy-Level Actions:

- Expand access to skilled antenatal, childbirth and postnatal care
- Expand access to Basic Emergency Obstetric Care (BEmOC) and Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric Care (CEmOC)

Individual, Family & Community-Level Actions:

- Inform adolescents and community members about the importance of skilled antenatal and childbirth care

Health System-Level Actions:

- Ensure that adolescents, families and communities are well prepared for birth and birth-related emergencies
- Be sensitive and responsive to the needs of young mothers and mothers-to-be.



Clinical Care for adolescents: What should be done differently ?

Relatively little. But health workers should...

- **Antenatal care:**

Provide adolescents with an early start to antenatal care

Assist them with preparing for birthing and birth-related emergencies

Treat them for anemia, which is likely to be more of a problem in pregnancy.

Give special attention to counseling and nutritional supplementation

Give them special attention in treatment and management of malaria in pregnancy and access to PMTCT services

Prioritize them for detection and management of violence.

- **Delivery care:**

Provide special attention during obstetric care to adolescents aged less than 16 years

- **Postnatal care:**

Give special attention to breastfeeding promotion throughout pregnancy and postpartum and to neonatal care more in general

Give special attention to preventing too-early second pregnancies

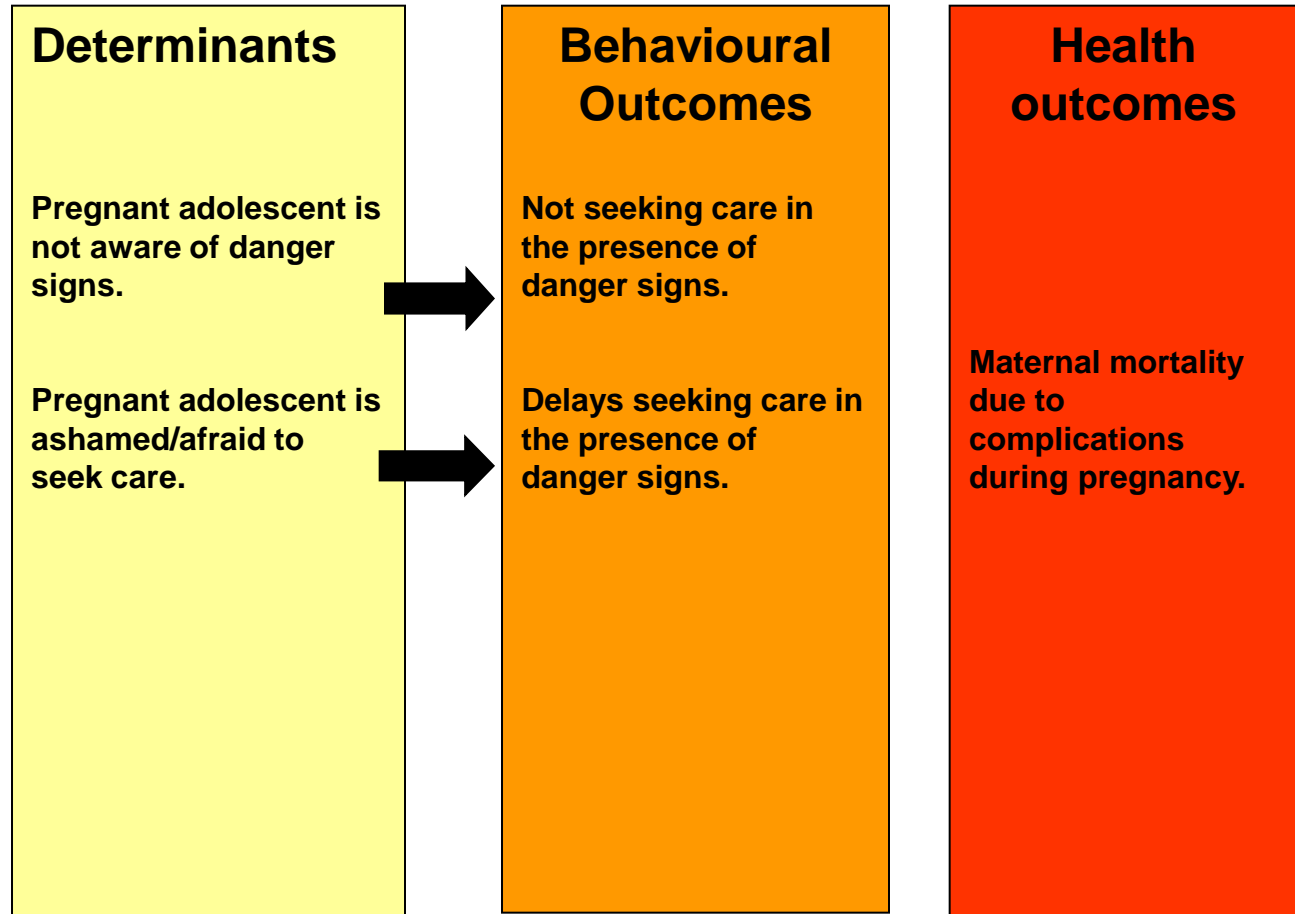
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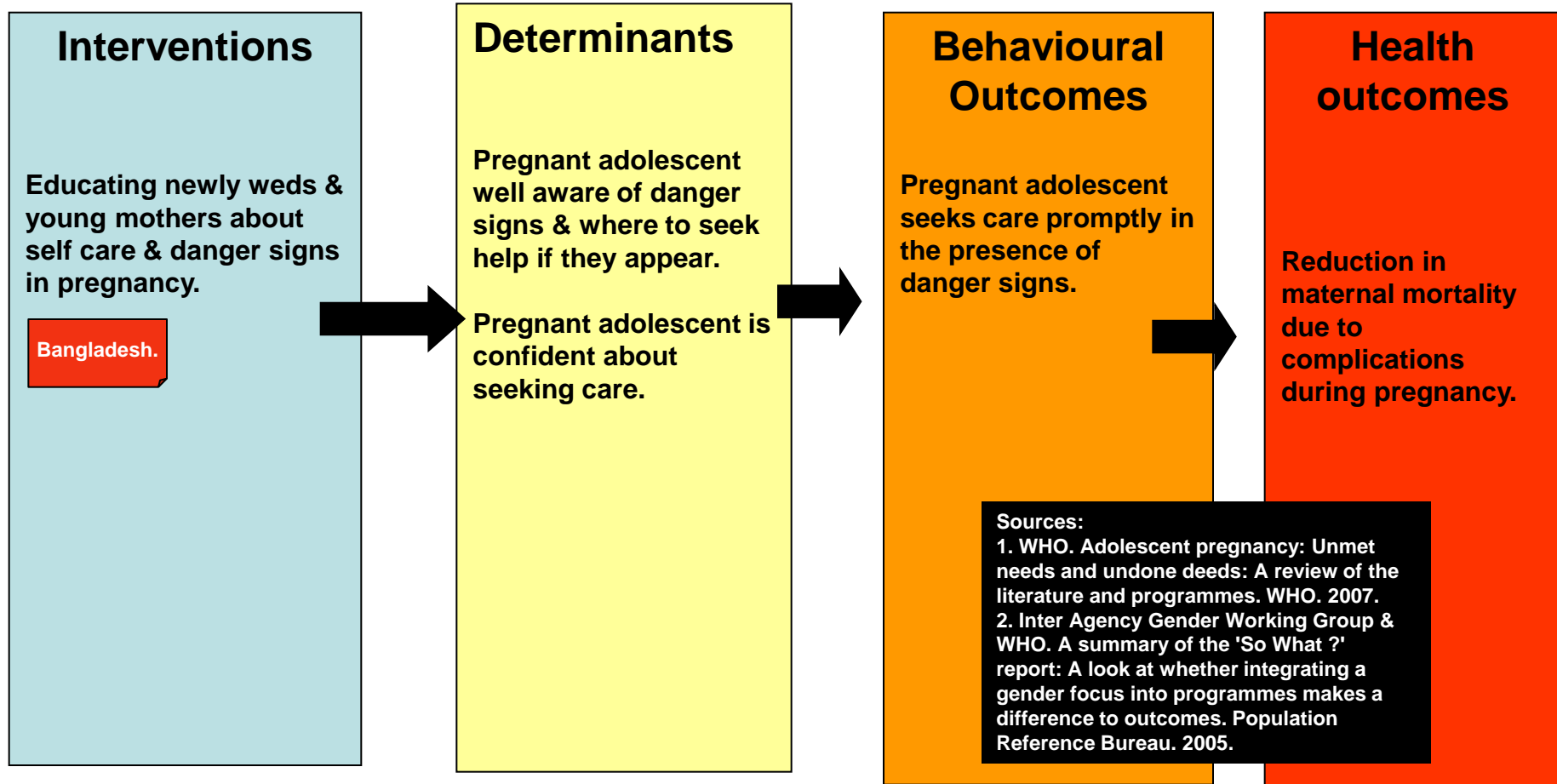


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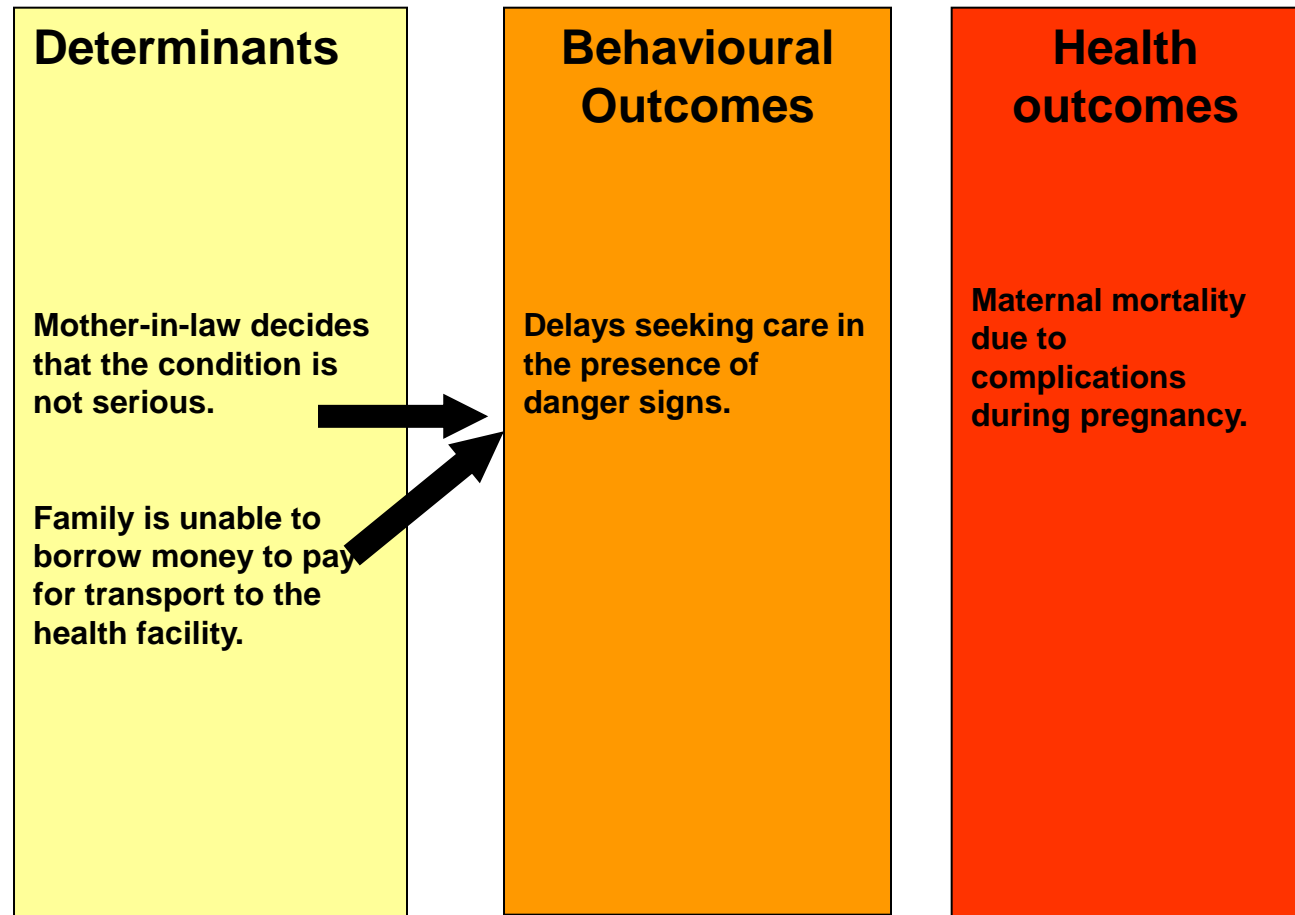
SOME DETERMINANTS OF MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ADOLESCENTS - 1.



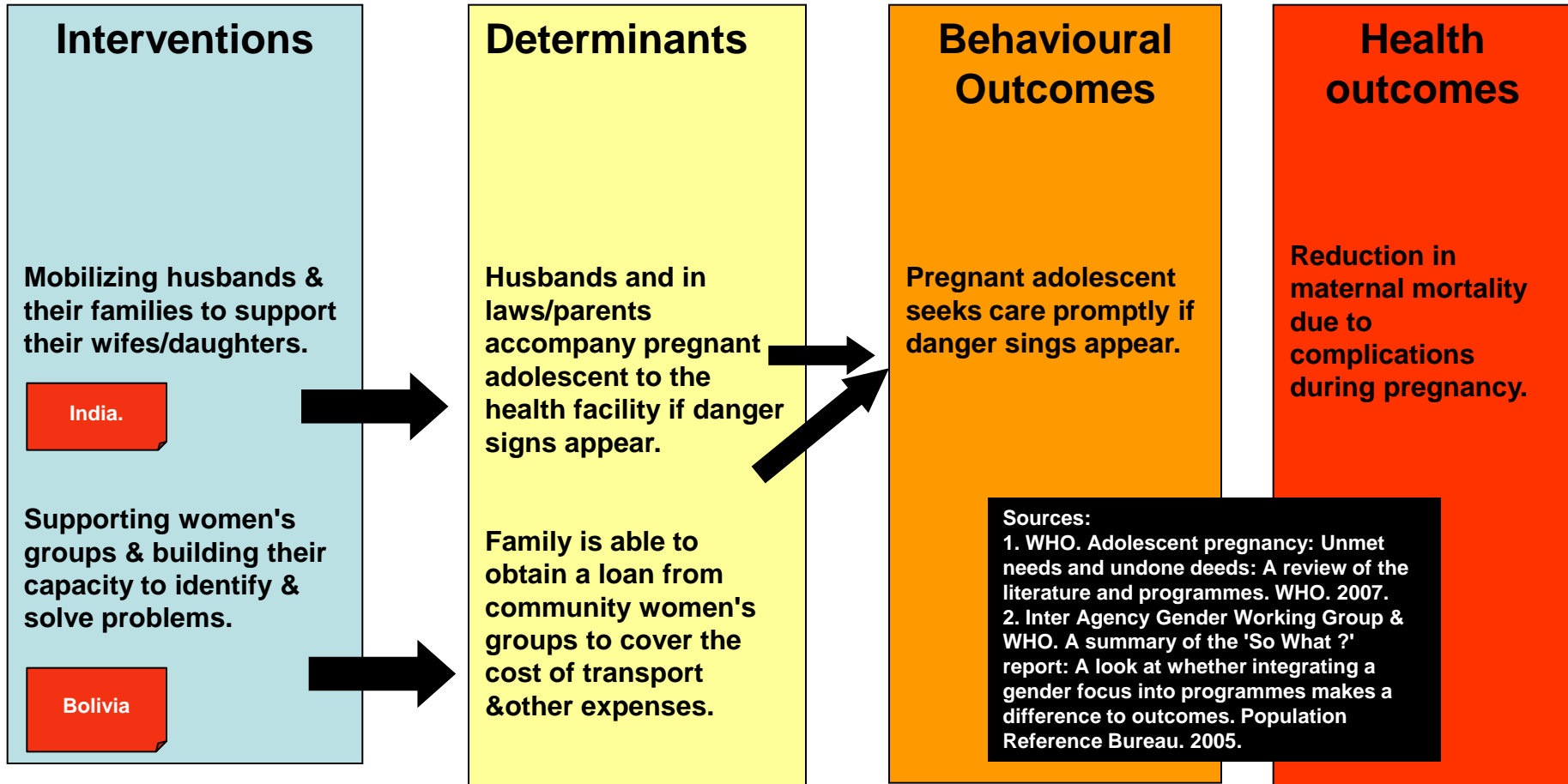
Empowering individuals to prevent maternal mortality & morbidity in adolescents.



SOME DETERMINANTS OF MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ADOLESCENTS - 2.



Mobilizing families & communities to prevent maternal mortality in adolescents - 1.





Policy maker

Creates an environment that supports the health of pregnant women & new borns

Community

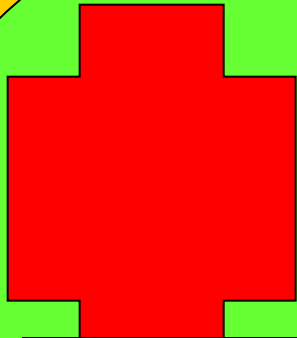
Advocates & facilitates preparedness & readiness actions

Family

Support pregnant woman's plans during pregnancy, childbirth & the postpartum period.

Woman

Prepares for birth, values & seeks skilled care during pregnancy, childbirth & the postpartum period

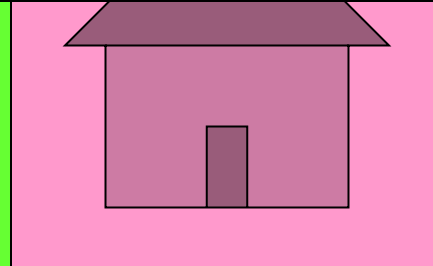


Facility

is equipped, staffed & managed to provide skilled care for the pregnant woman & the new born

Provider

provides skilled care for normal & complicated pregnancies, births & the postpartum period



Ensuring that young pregnant women get the health care & social support they need