As human beings, we are one and men and women have the same rights. Health programs should be in accordance with the needs of the community, not the communication between midwives and doctors. In case of risk and/or complications, the midwife has the right to accompany and assist the midwife asks for assistance, it is imperative that her needs be met in a timely and appropriate manner.

The explicit recognition and reaffirmation of the right of all women to control all aspects of their reproductive lives is one of the fundamental human rights principles into social, economic and political reality. It would also enhance their confidence. Traditional midwives, who have the right to maintain their work, a mother have the freedom to send her baby to the traditional midwife when delivering. This is their right and reason enough to simply maintain her existence and to help cultivate their culture and tradition. She is an independent essential and primary care provider during pregnancy, birth and postpartum care. Her socioeconomic level is compatible to that of the women she serves. Traditional midwives are usually permanent residents and their constant presence in the community is of great advantage. In many communities, they are the only health workers in the first level of health care. They have knowledge of the geography of the area, the language and the culture of the people. Her talent varies according to the region of residence. Her gift as a midwife and her intuition is much valued by the community. She is known as a traditional midwife, and through various means of education, she acquires new abilities. This is how she maintains her work. She was trained by her ancestors, colleagues, healers, other health providers and through self-learning; dreams, religious experiences and visions. Information compiled by: Latin American & Caribbean Network for the Humanization of Childbirth.

Final considerations

Traditionally, midwifery is an essential part of the health system in every country. Midwives are the professionals who assist the birth of a child. Their knowledge, experience, and expertise are invaluable in the delivery process. However, the importance of midwives has not always been recognized or valued. In some cases, midwives have been marginalized or ignored, and their contributions to the health of mothers and babies have been taken for granted. As a result, the quality of care provided by midwives has been compromised, and the health outcomes of mothers and babies have suffered.

It is imperative to acknowledge the traditional midwife as such and the acceptance of her right to work in the community. It is important to recognize their unique knowledge and skills in the birth process. The collaboration can come from different sources such as: Required community services after the birth of the baby; Family planning services; Education services; Nutrition services; Health promotion services.

It is important to keep in mind that the traditional midwife is not only a professional but also a community leader. They have a deep understanding of their community's needs and are often the most trusted and respected individuals in the community. They are an essential part of the community and play a crucial role in the health and well-being of mothers and babies.

In the African continent, traditional midwives have been recognized as a valuable resource for maternal and child health. In many countries, they are the primary providers of maternal health care. The need for traditional midwives has been acknowledged, and efforts have been made to integrate them into the formal health system. In some countries, they have been trained and licensed to work in the formal health system. They have also been trained to work with modern medical equipment.

In conclusion, the role of traditional midwives is undeniably important in maternal and child health. They bring a wealth of knowledge and skills to the birth process, and their contributions cannot be overstated. It is important to recognize their value and integrate them into the formal health system. Their role can be strengthened by providing them with the necessary training and equipment. This will ensure that they can provide the best possible care to mothers and babies in their communities.

References:


