Maternal/Neonatal Health

Just one woman or newborn dying from childbirth-related conditions is one too many when we know how to prevent such tragedies. At Abt Associates, we recognize that a holistic approach to preventing morbidity and mortality among the most vulnerable populations—mothers and newborns—is a major benchmark for a functioning health system. Abt also recognizes that solutions must be available beyond health facilities—they need to be accessible in households and in communities, where the majority of newborn and maternal deaths occurs.

Abt helps ministries of health in Cote d’Ivoire, Haiti, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Zambia and other countries develop key strategies that define essential health packages and, in particular, community health approaches. These packages allow community health workers to provide counseling, follow up appointment and referrals of mothers and newborns in the critical period following delivery.

In Jordan, we helped increase the neonatal survival rate for newborns placed on newborn-CPAP up to 89 percent.
Child Health

The under-five mortality rate has dropped worldwide by 58 percent since 1990, but many countries have more to do to reach the Sustainable Development Goals. As part of our mission to help the most vulnerable, we’re committed to improving child health by promoting state-of-the-art interventions. For example, we’ve used our multi-sector expertise to address nutritional challenges by integrating agricultural, behavior change and health solutions in Zambia, Tanzania and Indonesia. We’ve also led efforts to improve access to—and the quality of—health services such as child immunization and malaria treatment, throughout Mali, Zambia and Zimbabwe to reduce deaths even further.

Inequities in wealth are closely associated with child mortality rates—which is why Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and the strengthening of health systems is so essential. Abt has provided key assistance to ministries of health and communities in the provision of multi-pronged approaches to UHC such as expanding care through improved human resources and task shifting, strengthening health insurance and improving planning for primary health care.

We’ve facilitated the entry of 5 million treatments for acute pediatric diarrhea into the commercial market in Ghana.
Family Planning

More than 214 million women in developing regions still have an unmet need for family planning. Every year, there are more than 80 million unintended pregnancies and 2.7 million neonatal deaths, and every day, more than 800 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth.

Abt, in collaboration with government, the private sector and civil society, contributes to the prevention of unintended and unsafe pregnancies, unsafe abortions and maternal death by improving:

- **ACCESS** to a full range of family planning services through partnerships with manufacturers, distributors, social marketing organizations and public sector supply chain systems.
- **DEMAND** for family planning services by providing accurate information through social media and behavior change communications.
- **QUALITY** of family planning services through the technical assistance we provide.
- **AFFORDABILITY** of family planning, which we support with our health financing schemes, including contracting, vouchers and social insurance.
- **POLICY** using data-driven tools to define challenges accurately and guide local solutions. We help clients promote policy reform and address regulations that hamper delivery of family planning services.

“Family planning is key to achieving better health outcomes for women and children. Maximizing its impact, however, requires the engagement of all sectors, both public and private.”

- Susan Mitchell, Principal Associate, International Development Division
The Abt Advantage

Abt’s global and domestic approach to maternal, child and reproductive health supports cost-effective projects that produce sustainable quality results. We specialize in community and local partner involvement, evidence-based interventions, meaningful evaluation, improved quality of care and technical assistance in the delivery of services.

Abt works holistically across the health system in more than 40 countries, improving policies and refining financial mechanisms for funding and supporting UHC. We work closely with governments to strengthen their human resources for health capabilities and make their essential drug logistic systems efficient and effective.

Our outstanding team of qualified staff includes internationally renowned experts in the fields of reproductive, maternal and child health, quality improvement, evaluation design, data analysis, site recruitment and technical assistance studies. We have first-hand experience implementing a variety of reproductive maternal and child health projects, including:

- Developing strategies and updating national RMNCH policies to reflect international standards.
- Developing and implementing quality improvement projects.
- Designing and implementing meaningful evaluations.
- Managing partnerships with key groups and stakeholders.
- Leading critical multi-site studies.
Bold Ideas. Real Results.

Abt Associates is an engine for social impact, dedicated to moving people from vulnerability to security. Harnessing the power of data and our experts’ grounded insights, we provide research, consulting and technical services globally in the areas of health, environmental and social policy, technology and international development.

Key Focus Areas

- Education
- Environment & Energy
- Food Security & Agriculture
- Governance & Justice
- Health
- Housing, Communities & Asset Building
- Workforce & Economic Mobility

Cross-Cutting Core Capabilities

- Communications & Behavior Change
- Data Capture & Surveys
- Digital Transformations
- Research, Monitoring & Evaluation
- Technical Assistance & Implementation