Abstract:
This study was conducted to assess the Maternal and Child Health Services as a basis for capability development of Barangay Health Workers. Specifically, it aimed to answer the following questions: 1.) What is the profile of the respondents 1.1) mother as to age, educational attainment and monthly income; 1.2) barangay health workers as to age, educational attainment, honorarium, seminars/training attended, years of experience and health benefits; 2.) What are the maternal and child health care services availed by mothers as rendered by BHWs as to prenatal, postnatal and under five services; 3.) Is there a significant relationship between the profile of the mother and to the maternal and child health care services availed by mothers; .4) What capability development plan for barangay health workers can be proposed to enhance their services on maternal and child health care along prenatal, postnatal and under five care services?

The study employed the descriptive-correlation research design which is very ideal for the description of the assessment of the Maternal and Child Health Care services as rendered by the Barangay Health Worker. The respondents of the study are the mothers who have received services of the barangay health workers for the year 2006-2009 from the 5 most populated rural and 5 most populated urban barangays of Bacarra, Ilocos Norte.

A questionnaire was used to gather data based on the specific question dealt with in the study. It was pilot-tested to 15 mothers who had experienced the services of barangay health workers and were not included in the study.

The data gathered were analyzed and interpreted using the frequency and percentage to determine the profile of the mothers and barangay health workers, the weighted mean to determine the extent to which the Maternal and Child Health Care Services are rendered by the BHWs based on the assessment of mothers who availed of such services. Correlation was used to determine whether the profile of the mothers is significantly related with the extent to which the Maternal and Child Health Care Services as to prenatal, postnatal and under five services are performed by the BHWs.

Findings of the study on Maternal and Child Health Care Services as availed by mothers rendered by the Barangay Health Workers shows that prenatal care services in the rural area is almost always implemented while in the urban areas is often implemented. In the postnatal care services, it is often implemented in
both rural and urban areas. Level of implementation in the under five services is almost always implemented in both rural and urban areas.

The study found out that there is a significant relationship between the income and the extent to which the prenatal services availed by mothers in the urban areas, likewise with the under five services in both rural and urban areas.

Based on the result of the study, it is concluded that mothers who avail of the maternal and child health care through the services rendered by the barangay health workers possess the maturity and knowledge to understand the services provided. Furthermore, the BHW do not possess the related skills toward the performance of their duties and responsibilities; do not possess anymore the agility and the drive of the youth and the lack of the BHWs to meet the demands of the growing population of mother and child.

Availment of maternal and child health care services by the mothers is not optimized in both rural and urban barangay because of limitation in the manipulation skills of BHWs tasked to render the services.

Differences or variations in the implementation of maternal and child health care services particularly along the under five services can be attributed to the income. Based on the findings and conclusions, it is recommended to adopt a proposed capability development framework for BHWs to enhance their skills and knowledge for the necessary and proper implementation of their duties and responsibilities.