

**THE PERCEPTIONS OF SAFE DELIVERY AMONG MARRIED  
WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE BETWEEN 20 AND 49  
YEARS OLD IN PARKGNEUM DISTRICT,  
VIENTIANE CAPITAL, LAO PDR**



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**ABSTRACT**

A cross-sectional study was conducted to determine factors relating to the perceptions of safe delivery among married women of reproductive age living in Parkgneum district, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR. Data were collected from 9<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> January 2009 by interviewing 160 women aged between 20 and 49 years old by using a structured questionnaire. Data analysis was performed by using Descriptive Statistics, Chi-square test and Multiple Logistic Regression.

The study found that 53.1% were aged between 20 and 34 years old and 70% of them were farmers. Most of the women had a good knowledge about safe delivery, while only 27% of them had poor knowledge about safe delivery. 46% of respondents had difficult access to health services, 49.4% had difficult access to safe delivery information and 57.5% of them received good support from their husbands. 50% of respondents had negative as well as positive perceptions about safe delivery.

The study revealed that age, access to safe delivery information and husband support were associated with perceptions of safe delivery, OR= 2.224 (95% CI = 1.138-4.347), 2.354 (95% CI = 1.206-4.596) and 2.410 (95% CI = 1.198-4.847 respectively).

It is recommended that access information be increased and that the husband's support be promoted. These are critical to encourage women to have access to safe delivery services.

**KEY WORDS : PERCEPTION/ SAFE DELIVERY / MARRIED WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE.**

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