Dear Editor,

The reduction of maternal mortality is one of the priority programmes of the National Department of Health and the World Health Organisation.

We enclose an article which we believe is important for the general practitioners. Most District hospitals are staffed by medical officers, family physicians and general practitioners as sessional doctors. This article will bring to their attention the standard of care provided and the issues related to maternal deaths at district hospitals.

All authors have given permission for publication and the audit received ethical permission approval from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (**BE218/09**) and permissions were obtained from the KZN Department of Health and the hospital.

We hope you will find this paper acceptable for publication as the information is relevant to all South African Health Professionals.

Best regards

Dr. PN Makinga

Prof. J Moodley, and

Dr. MJ Titus