Subject: Re: Home Delivery Vs Health Facility Delivery Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Mon, 14 Dec 2020 14:11:40 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

It is possible that in a few cases (we hope only a few) a facility is associated with infection or malpractice, but it is more likely that this finding is the result of selectivity. Women with a difficult pregnancy tend to have more antenatal visits and to be referred to a facility for the birth. It's similar to someone with a severe illness being taken to a hospital and dying in the hospital. The visit to the hospital was not the cause of the death; hopefully the visit to the hospital improved the chance of survival. You will find this statistical relationship in many DHS surveys. It's an example of correlation but not causation.