

Can AI Augmented Fetal Monitoring Prevent Intrapartum Stillbirth and Neonatal Death in a Low-Income Setting?

Chikondi Chiweza¹, Ibe Iwuh², Abida Hasan², Address Malata³, Michael Belfort (FETAL MEDICINE ISSUE EDITOR)², and Jeffrey Wilkinson²

¹Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation Malawi

²Baylor College of Medicine

³Malawi University of Science and Technology

May 5, 2022

Abstract

Intrapartum stillbirths and early neonatal deaths remain stubbornly high in low income countries. Fetal monitoring in labour can reduce these poor outcomes, but limited progress is being achieved in these settings. Intermittent auscultation and continuous electronic fetal monitoring (CEFM) can both be employed to monitor a fetus during labour. There are challenges and limitations with both modalities. We used AI augmented fetal monitoring in a hospital in Malawi and demonstrated substantial reductions in both intrapartum stillbirths and early neonatal deaths with a small increase in the cesarean delivery rate. AI-CEFM should be studied further to achieve better perinatal outcomes.

Hosted file

AI-CEFM Research Letter 29_4_22_revised_.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/480730/articles/568007-can-ai-augmented-fetal-monitoring-prevent-intrapartum-stillbirth-and-neonatal-death-in-a-low-income-setting>