# Maternal deaths

Case 1

A twenty four year old married nulliparous woman was admitted with severe right sided abdominal pain of 6 hours duration. She collapsed in the outpatient department. She looked severely anaemic and was resuscitated in the emergency department. Intravenous fluid replacement was started and blood was ordered. The history from her husband showed that she had amenorrhoea for 11 weeks. She had never contacted a health care professional to confirm a pregnancy.

Ultra sound scan confirmed the clinical suspicion of ruptured ectopic pregnancy and she was prepared for surgery. But before the surgery was performed to arrest internal bleeding, she died She died from hypovolaemic shock after 2 hours of admission.

Case 2

A 36 year old multiparous woman was admitted to the maternity ward in labour pains. She delivered a 2.7kg baby after 4 hours of admission and since her placenta was not delivered spontaneously, it was removed manually by the doctor who delivered the baby. However, the women continue to bleed and therefore blood was ordered for transfusion.

The specialist Obstetrician was consulted and he adviced to get the patient ready for surgery to arrest the bleeding. However, despite all life saving measures the person died 7 hours after admission.