

Maternal mortality is a major problem especially in developing countries. Maternal deaths are partly attributed to the limited access to healthcare and a shortage of medically trained health professionals who can provide maternal healthcare service. Approaches have been adopted to improve the access to and quality of healthcare. The approaches include strengthening healthcare systems by improving numbers and skills of the healthcare workforce, supporting the limited number of medical professionals with IT and, transforming healthcare by managing and organizing care based on a value-based system.

This thesis considers the value-based system approach. The approach advocates for a shift from healthcare provider-centered care to care that involves multiple actors who interact and integrate resources to co-create value, in order to benefit themselves and others. The value-based system requires health information technology innovations that create opportunities for the many actors, including healthcare professionals, patients, family care givers and community health workers, to integrate resources thereby co-creating value.

Information Technology (IT) has been identified as a key driver for actors to co-create value however, the way in which IT can drive value co-creation in healthcare has not been fully explored. Consequently, the overall aim of this thesis is to enhance knowledge on how IT as a resource contributes to value-based maternal healthcare in low-resource settings.



Hawa Nyende
Department of Applied Information Technology
Division of Informatics

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Hawa Nyende

**DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**



UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG