

Abstract

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has one of the highest under-5 child mortality rate (U5MR) in the world. The DRC presents one of the most difficult settings for health development. Environmental issues present in DRC include destruction of natural resources and forests, illegal hunting of native fauna, and water contamination. Many reasons are present influencing the high rate of mortality rate, one being the nation's dependence on a health system affected by years of war, bad government and financial misguidance. A second reason implicates the disparity of access to health care, health services administration and growth. This paper will present an initiative on a program to reduce U5MR in the DRC through breastfeeding and child nutrition education or infant and young child feeding. The doctorate prepared nurse practitioner is responsible for fostering alliances and effectively integrating the plan into action with clear and concise communication about the importance of breastfeeding and child nutrition with the ultimate goal of achieving U5MR to at least as low as 25 deaths per 1,000 live births by 2030.

Keywords: Under-5 child mortality rate, The Democratic Republic of the Congo