

PhD Confirmation Seminar: Rana Islamiah Zahroh

Caesarean birth in Indonesia: Understanding inequalities, inefficiencies, and intentionalities

Supervisors:

Dr Meghan Bohren, Gender and Women's Health Unit, Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, The University of Melbourne

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3:00pm to 4:00pm AEST



<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/85642136481?pwd=Vk9lcGF5d1JHMkR1WkFJUW5qNmZoZz09>



Caesarean section (CS) rates are increasing globally with limited additional benefit for women's or newborns' health. Similar to global trends, CS rates in Indonesia have increased significantly, accompanied with profound widening inequalities of CS across different groups of women. This PhD project will consider how both external and woman-driven factors contribute to increasing rates and inequalities of CS in Indonesia by conducting a primary qualitative research study with women, families and healthcare providers, analysing the portrayal and discourse of CS in Indonesian social media and investigating factors and processes that lead to successful interventions in optimising CS use. This project will provide critical new evidence to inform policy and practice on more equitable access to maternity care services in Indonesia.

Rana is a graduate researcher at Gender and Women's Health (GWH) unit. Rana was born and raised in Indonesia. She received her Bachelor of Science degree with full scholarship from KAIST, South Korea, however, driven by her desire to contribute back to her country, Rana returned to Indonesia in 2015 and since then began her public health career journey. Rana has leaded several maternal health research projects in Indonesia aiming to reduce maternal mortality in rural areas of West Nusa Tenggara. In 2019, Rana also started working as a Research Assistant at GWH contributing to various research in low- and middle-income countries to improve women's experiences during pregnancy and childbirth. Rana is an Australian Awards Alumni (MPH) and a recipient of Human Rights Scholarship (PhD).