



## How can you help.....

### EngenderHealth

would not be able to provide medicine & food for the patient during hospital stay and direct incidental cost of the accompanying person. Approximate incidental cost is Tk. five to eight thousand for one patient.

Since these fistula patients are the poorest of the poor in the society, we would seek your kind support for them. You can join us to help these destitute women in the society and thus shoulder some social responsibility.

Corporate agencies have started to come forward in working with us. Now we are looking towards your support.



*If you want to help please contact us.*



**EngenderHealth Bangladesh**  
for a better life

Concord Royal Court (5th Floor)  
House # 40, Road # 16 (New)  
Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209, Bangladesh  
Tel : 88-02-8119234, 8119236, 8115077, 9117518  
Fax : 88-02-8119235  
E-mail: [afaisel@engenderhealth.org](mailto:afaisel@engenderhealth.org)  
[www.engenderhealth.org](http://www.engenderhealth.org)



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ENABLING TO ENSURE  
**WOMEN'S RIGHT**

*Help an Obstetric  
Fistula Patient*





## What is Obstetric Fistula...

Obstetric Fistula is a condition which happens to women due to delayed delivery. In these women there is a continuous dribbling of urine or occasionally stool or both through vagina. These patients usually come from remote rural areas and they are the poorest of the poor in the society. These women are neglected and disdained by their husbands/in laws. They are socially deprived and don't have money for the treatment and even to come to the health facility.

## How big is the Problem .....

Exact number of obstetric fistula in Bangladesh is not known. National estimates suggest the number of Bangladeshi women currently suffering from fistula would be between 50,000 and 100,000. Based on data from the "Situation Analysis of Obstetric Fistula", in Bangladesh the estimated incidence rate of fistula is 1.69 per 1000 ever married women.<sup>1</sup>

In the above mentioned situation analysis conducted by EngenderHealth, funded by UNFPA revealed that in a very few cases patients and community people are aware about the availability of the treatment, and most of the cases have no money to come to the facility for availing services. A detail report of the situation analysis is available at EngenderHealth.

## Present Need.....

Obstetric Fistula cases need both curative care and sometimes rehabilitation. There needs to be activities for prevention of fistula as well. Government of Bangladesh has started working on

<sup>1</sup> Report on "Situation Analysis of Obstretic Fistula in Bangladesh"



this issue. The situation analysis conducted by EngenderHealth documented that medical college hospitals and very few private hospitals have been providing curative treatment for such cases. However, most of the health facilities require skilled manpower for the surgery. There is very little emphasis on the rehabilitation of the treated patients and almost no activities on the prevention of obstetric fistula.

## EngenderHealth Initiative.....

EngenderHealth has started working with Kumudini Hospital, Mirzapur, Tangail; LAMB Hospital Parbatipur, Dinajpur; Memorial Christian Hospital, Malumghat, Cox's Bazar. With the financial support from USAID, EngenderHealth has been facilitating training on fistula reconstruction surgery for the service providers of these hospitals, provide equipment as necessary and initiate the services for the fistula patients.