



## Reproductive theory of increased risks”: A strategic model for stratifying ‘at-risk mothers’ in developing countries

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### ABSTRACT

Conceptualization: “Reproductive theory of increased risks” results from reproductive transition. Reproductive transition is transition to reproductive health, from a high-risk situation to a low-risk one over a sustainable period in a community. Both models are the same approach with different levels. The “increased risk theory” presents cases of cumulative hazards in high-risk maternity. It examines the situation of mothers who are too young; mothers who are too old; and mothers with multiple pregnancy for whom the danger is heightened by harmful practices such as: obsolete neonatal vaccines; inadequate prenatal consultations; and unattended childbirth. Problematic situation: In reproductive health assessment, a traditional approach starts with microsociological data, isolated from each other, to produce macrosociological results. Standard action plans are then defined. Thus, local specific problems, experienced variably by different categories of actors, are overshadowed. Seeing the complexity of this experience, how can these general plans produce efficient results? Methodological and theoretical perspectives: In contrast to the classical method, “the reproductive theory of increased risks” has opted for the hypothesis of mesosocial analysis, and taking into account interaction between the facts. It highlights, the specific photograph of each of the three groups of mothers having problem. Ultimately, it draws up an action plan based on the order of importance of the problems observed. Conclusion: An analytical application at the local, regional and national levels is being developed. It is an essential innovation for maternal and neonatal health for developing countries.

### BIOGRAPHY

ABE N’DOUMY NOEL is a professor of anthropology and research-teacher at Université ALASSANE OUATTARA- Côte d’Ivoire. He works on African-style health objects, environmental health and reproductive health. He is a member of the Scientific Support Group for the National Program for the Eradication of Dracunculiasis and the Scientific Support Group for the National Program for Malaria control in Côte d’Ivoire. In response to the worrying issue of maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality in Africa, he first developed and published a model entitled: “La théorie de la transition génésique” (reproductive theory of transition). The second stage of this research is “la théorie génésique des risques accrus” (reproductive theory of increased risks). These different contributions are promising for maternal and neonatal health, for a demographic dividend and for the demographic transition in developing countries.

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