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Forum for Africa Studies International Maternal and Child Health (IMCH)



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Suspicious around Misoprostol. A socio-anthropological study in Burkina Faso

Date: Tuesday 18 September 2018, 13:00 (sharp) – 14.00

Venue: Waldenströmsalen, C11 BV, Rudbecklaboratoriet, Science Park, Dag Hammarskjöldsväg 20

After initially being used in the treatment of gastric ulcers, other efficiencies were later discovered in obstetric care, such as treatment of postpartum haemorrhage, acceleration of delivery, post-natal care, and abortion. These diverse uses have turned misoprostol into a drug that plays an important role in reducing maternal mortality in low-income countries. Fatoumata Ouattara analyses the institutional logics and local professional practices related to the employment of misoprostol in maternity care in Burkina Faso and how this way of tackling maternal mortality is confronted with local suspicions and fears that misoprostol use for abortion will open the door to empowering women to control their sexuality.

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