1224 Articles identified through electronic database search e.g. PubMed

1247 Article titles screened in total

23 Additional articles identified through other sources e.g. conference proceedings

615 Articles excluded as titles contain irrelevant information

632 Abstracts down loaded and screened

617 Abstracts excluded 594 are not population based studies 19 evaluated other exposure or intervention 4 are duplicate studies

15 Full-text articles down loaded and assessed for eligibility

6 Full-text articles further excluded 5 do not have complete information to fill 2 X 2 table 1 does not have adequate information on place of delivery

9 Articles are included in meta-analysis 6 report on perinatal mortality 3 report on maternal mortality