

## **Abstract**

**Title** – A Risk-Benefit Analysis of Home Birth and Holistic Hospital Interventions

**Program of Study** – Nursing (Residential BSN)

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**Abstract** : This paper will analyze the risks and benefits implicit in home birth, qualitative findings on clients' motivation and decision making when choosing home birth, and interventions that can make hospital or birth center delivery a more attractive alternative when making an informed choice. A review of current literature is the foundation for the body of evidence presented in this paper. This paper seeks to answer the following question: do home births have safe outcomes when compared to hospital births, and if not, what can a collaborative healthcare team do to support safe choices by clients? A review of recent literature will be discussed as pertains to risk stratification, statistics comparing maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality in home birth to hospital birth, common complications, benefits of home birth, an analysis of why patients choose home birth, patient autonomy, the ethics of obstetrics, strengthening a collaborative team approach, supporting a client's birth plan, non-pharmacologic pain intervention, support persons, environment, and oral intake during labor. A Christian worldview perspective on obstetric ethical obligations will also be briefly examined. The objective of this paper is to succinctly explain to health care providers and health care clients the risks and benefits of home and hospital birth and to provide concrete holistic recommendations for health care providers in supporting client informed choice