DEFINITIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

**Abruptio Placentae:** Bleeding occurs due to premature separation of normally situated placenta.

**Adult lifetime risk of maternal death:** The probability of dying from a maternal cause during a woman’s reproductive lifespan.

**Amniotic fluid:** The transparent, almost colorless, fluid contained within the amniotic sac surrounding the fetus, composed of albumin, urea, creatinine, water and various salts.

**Anemia:** Deficiency in the circulating hemoglobin, red blood cells, or packed cell volume.

**Antenatal care:** Systematic supervision (examination and advice) of a woman during pregnancy.

**Antepartum Haemorrhage:** Bleeding from or in to the genital tract after the 28th week of pregnancy but before the birth of the baby.

**Anthropometry:** Branch of anthropology dealing with comparative measurements of the parts of human body.

**Birth asphyxia:** Failure to initiate and maintain spontaneous respiration following birth.

**BMI:** Body weight in relation to height.

**Calorie:** A unit of heat measurement; in nutrition, the kcal is the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of 1kg water through 1 °C (conventionally from 15 °C to 16 °C).

**Congenital anomalies:** Deformities existing at birth or even before.

**Conjunctiva:** The mucous membrane covering the anterior portion of the eye ball, reflected upon the lids and extending to their free edges.

**Diastolic Pressure:** The diastolic pressure is the lowest pressure in an artery in the moments between beats when the heart is resting.

**Factorial Approach:** The requirements for different functions/ factors are assessed separately, and added up to arrive at the total daily requirement.

**Family Income:** Combined earning of all members of the children’s household.

**Fetoscopy:** A small tube with a light source at one end is inserted into the uterus to inspect the fetus for defects of the limbs and face.
Fetus: The prenatal organism from the beginning of the third month to the end of pregnancy during which time completion of body structures and dramatic growth in size takes place.

Gestation: Period of pregnancy, i.e., carrying of the fetus in the mother’s womb.

Gravida: Gravida denotes a pregnant state both present and past, irrespective of the period of gestation.

IUD: Antepartum death (during pregnancy) occurring beyond 28 weeks.

Jaundice of the newborn: Yellow coloration of the skin and the mucosa is caused by accumulation of excess of bilirubin in the tissue and the plasma conjugated (bilirubin level should be in excess 2mg/dl).

Joint family: Extended family groups, who generally live under one roof, eat food cooked in one kitchen, participate in common family working, and are related to each other.

LBW: An infant whose weight at birth is below 2500g.

Lenoleic acid: Fatty acid containing 18 carbon atoms and two double bonds. The first double bond is on the 6 carbon atom from the methyl end. Therefore it is called n-6 fatty acid and is abbreviated as 18:2 n-6.

Multigravida: One who has previously been pregnant. She may have aborted or have delivered a viable baby.

NPU: Net Protein Utilization is the extent of utilization is the extent of utilization of dietary protein in our body and largely extent depends upon its amino acid composition.

Nuclear family: Composed of two generations usually; or both parents living with their children.

Nutrient: Chemical substance in foods which nourishes e.g. amino acid, fat, calcium.

Obstructed labour: Obstructed labour is one where in spite of good uterine contractions, the progressive descent of the presenting part is arrested due to mechanical obstruction.

Oedema: Presence of abnormal amounts of fluids in intercellular space, resulting in swelling.

Parity: Parity denotes a state of previous pregnancy beyond the period of viability.

Per capita family monthly income: the ratio between total monthly family income and number of family members.
PIH: Pregnancy-induced hypertension (formerly called toxemia) is a combination of symptoms which include hypertension, oedema and albuminuria.

Placenta praevia: when the placenta is implanted partially or completely over the uterine segment.

Placenta: A vascular structure on the wall of the uterus developed specially for providing nourishment to the growing fetus.

Post-partum haemorrhage: Any amount of bleeding from or into the genital tract following birth of the baby up to the end of the puerperium which adversely affects the general condition of the patient evident by rise in pulse rate and falling blood pressure.

Pre-eclampsia: A toxemic condition of late pregnancy characterized by increased blood pressure, swelling of feet and excretion of protein in the urine.

Preterm baby: A baby born before 37 completed weeks of gestation.

Primigravida: One who is pregnant for the first time.

Primipara: One who has delivered one viable child.

Prolonged Labour: Labour is said to be prolonged when the combined duration of the first and second stage is more than the arbitrary time limit of 18 hours.

RDA: The amounts of dietary energy and nutrients considered sufficient for maintaining good health by the people of a country.

Respiratory distress: Increased alveolar fluid content, inadequate clearance of lung fluid, lack or inhibition of surfactant function, or reduced surface area for gas exchange is the basic pathology for respiratory distress.

Retained Placenta: Placenta is said to be retained when it is not expelled out even 30 minutes after the birth of the baby.

SFD: An infant who is born with lower birth weight for his gestational age is known as small for date baby.

Still birth: A stillbirth is the birth of a newborn after 28th completed week (weighing 1000g or more) when the baby does not breathe or show any sign of life after delivery.

Systolic Pressure: The systolic pressure is the maximum pressure in an artery at the moment when the heart is beating and pumping blood through the body.

VLBW: A very low birth weight infant may even weigh 1500g or less.