

Supplementary Tables:

Supplementary Table 1: Full narratives documenting suspected SIDS

Obs.	Narrative	Age at death, m
1	Informant the grandmother. Am not very sure what really happened because this baby has been fine, now this morning when I asked the mother to give me the baby so I can give it a bath, I just noticed the baby was not responding the neck was floppy when I asked the mother, she had no idea then I told her that the baby was dead. Up to now I don't know what happened.	0.13
2	The aunt stated that " the baby was ok all along until yesterday afternoon when the mother went to check on the baby, whom she left sleeping in bed, only to find the baby not breathing but warm. We took the baby to Chawama police where we got a police report then proceeded to UTH morgue were the doctor certified dead at 16:00 hrs on 03-05-18." The baby was born out of wedlock hence information given by grandfather and aunt is not much.	0.13
3	The father to the deceased stated that, " the baby was our first born. She was born at Levy Mwanawasa Teaching Hospital via SVD and normal delivery. We are really devastated with the loss of our baby. The baby woke up around 03:00 hours of 26-06-18 crying. The mother breastfed her then she slept. I woke up around 05:00hours to switch off security lights. When I went back to the bedroom, the mother woke up to check on the baby only to note that the baby was lying stiff not breathing. We took the baby to Mtendere Clinic where we were advised to go to the Police. We took the body to Kalikiliki Police where we obtained a Police report then proceeded to the UTH morgue."	0.16
4	The aunt stated that the mother reported the infant crying in the night. In the morning around 08:00, the infant breastfed well and was fine. The next time the mother went to check on the baby felt the body extremely cold and had collapsed. They rushed to Mtendere clinic, and the baby was pronounced dead.	0.2
5	The respondent to the deceased is the grandmother her narrative over the deceased was that the baby died suddenly due to too much crying since birth. No other illness was noticed before the baby died. The mother took the infant to the clinic today for BCG & OPV0 vaccinations which she did not receive soon after birth. It is not clear whether the infant was given these vaccines today. They took the body to George Police Post to get a death report and after getting the report they were referred to UTH BID section. They are going for burial soon after this process.	0.2
6	This was a term baby with birth weight of about 2kg. The birth went well, and mum and baby were discharged after a day in hospital. On the material day, all seemed well and both mother and baby retired to bed. Around three in the morning the grandfathered the baby crying and woke up and asked the mother to breastfeed. After feeding the baby they all went back to sleep. It was around six in the morning when the mother woke up that she noticed that the was not ok. She alerted her father who upon being alerted noticed that the baby was not breathing. He alerted the neighbor who later escorted them to the police and later to UTH.	0.23

- 7 Informant Father: The infant was born at Bauleni CLINIC. The baby cried after birth. The baby was fine yesterday nothing appeared to be wrong even as we went to sleep. In the early hours of this morning when we wake up to check on the baby, we discovered yellow fluids coming out from the nose. The baby was NOT breathing and was already dead. We then brought the body to UTH BID section for death certification. 0.26
- 8 Informant the grandfather, according to the parents of the baby this baby was not ill the day before it happened the baby was very active and feeding well the baby slept after feeding the next time the mother went to check on the baby it was not breathing they called me and narrated what happened we went to the police and we were asked to do a postmortem to ascertain the cause of death but this is just a baby let it rest in peace. 0.33
- 9 The child was well in the evening but at night, the child started crying a lot and refusing to breast. The baby cried up to midnight then he slept. We thought the child slept because he was tired of crying, so we put him on the bed to rest. Later, towards the morning, when the mother checked on the baby, she found the baby dead on the bed. 0.39
- 10 The child had no history of illness but died at home at night from what I think was extreme coldness as the parents and the child slept in an incomplete house without part of the roof. The child has been calm all night and there was no sign of being unwell and nothing suspicious was noticed. 0.59
- 11 The grandmother stated that the baby was well when they all went to sleep. When the mother woke up around 03:00 to breastfeed, she noticed the baby was not breathing and was dead. The body was taken to police station for certification of death. Baby died in sleep. 0.66
- 12 The grandmother stated that, " the baby was born premature. All these days, the baby has been well until this morning when the mother went to prepare some milk to feed the baby. When she went to wake up the baby to feed, she discovered the baby Was floppy, sluggish. Tried to arouse the baby but failed, that was when she called me for help. When i arrived at home, decided to take the baby to the clinic, unfortunately, on the way, the baby died." 0.72
- 13 We never so anything wrong with the child yesterday the whole day and at bedtime, the child was well. The child was found dead on the bed when the parents woke up in the morning. We just took the body to the clinic for confirmation of the death, for which the cause we don't know. 0.82
- 14 Informant: Grandmother. The baby was born - second twin, at Chawama L 1 Hospital. She was delivered via SVD premature. The delivery was normal and uneventful. She weighed 900 grams. She was the third born of the 3 siblings. The other two are alive and health. The baby was very well all along. This morning of Monday 10/06/2016 around 04:00 hours, the mother woke up and breastfed the babies and there after the babies slept. The mother woke up around 06:00 hours to check on the babies only to find the second male twin stiff, not breathing, froth coming from the mouth. The body was still warm. The couple summoned the grandmother together rushed the baby to Chawama L1Hospital. On arrival at the Hospital, the Doctors examined the baby and later informed them that the baby was dead. "We went to obtain a Police report at Chawama Police Post then proceeded here to the UTH morgue." 1.02

- 15 The mother to the deceased stated that " the baby was born as a premature in UTH on 18-04-18. Was discharged from UTH on 18-05-18. All along, since discharge, the baby was fine and breastfeeding well. This morning around 04:00 hours - 24-05-18, my usual waking up time to attend to my baby, I observed that the baby was lying stiff - was not breathing. We took the baby to UTH Police who issued us a police report then took the body to the morgue. Police report issued 24-05-18 at 08:40 hours. Cause of death said to be Fever." 1.18
- 16 Informant: Aunt. " The baby was well all along. Evening of Saturday 22- 09 - 18, mother bathed and fed porridge to the baby. Thereafter, the baby slept and was put to bed. The mother went to attend to some other household errands; by the time she went to check on the baby, she found the baby not breathing and some porridge coming out through the mouth and nostrils. We took the baby to Chawama Police for Police report. Time of death was recorded 19:00 hours. We then proceeded to UTH morgue. " 1.25
- 17 The child has been well yesterday morning but later started crying a lot. Since the child is being fed on milk as she is not breast feeding from the mother, (Reason not given), the mother gave the child milk to drink, and the child drunk the milk well. After taking the milk, the child stopped crying and fell asleep. Later, after minutes, the mother went to check on the baby and found the baby dead on the bed. 1.25
- 18 The fa8ther stated that," the baby was delivered on 07-09-17 at Chawama level 1 Hospital. Normal delivery, bwt 3700 kgs. Received BCG and OPV On 08-09-17. Two weeks ago, developed difficulty breathing, bleeding from the mouth, chest in drawing, nasal flaring and baby was irritable. Was diagnosed as pneumonia and treated with Cefotaxine. The baby was thereafter, well and playing until Thursday 19-10-17 around 18:00hrs, when the mother left the baby sleeping in bed and went to have a bath. After bathing, the mother went back to the bedroom only to find the baby stiff, bleeding from the mouth and frothe on the side of the mouth. We took the baby to Chawama hospital and were told the baby was already dead. This is the second baby to die in similar manner. We wish the study you are doing will reveal the causes of death to our babies." 1.38
- 19 Informant: Father The father said that twin babies have been fine and growing well since birth. Yesterday the twins were taken for vaccinations of opv1, dpt1, pcv1 and Rota1. It is common that babies cry after vaccinations at the clinic. We went to bed and slept. When we wake up around 04:00 hours to check on the babies, we were shocked find out that baby Israel was not breathing had died already and was stiff. We brought the body to UTH BID section for death certification and storage before burial. The other twin is fine. 1.55
- 20 This morning, father said baby started crying and the mother was breastfeeding her then he left for work. But even the previous day, baby was okay, but father said he got a call that baby had died at home, and they were waiting for him. He narrated to say those at home mentioned to him that the mother left baby sleeping and she was washing outside. But when her sister came wanted to see baby and got her but was surprised to see no movements from the baby and that's how they called the father. 1.58
- 21 Baby was ok, early morning I went for family planning with her and afterwards, I breastfeed her then put her on my back. When we reached I put her to sleep. Now she slept for a long time and when we check on her, she was cold. Then we went to report. 1.61

22	Father says the couple found the baby died in the morning.	1.61
23	Informant: Father A female baby was born at Kanyama 1 st Level Hospital on 15/05/2019, delivered via SVD, cried, and sucked well. Shx: 2nd born. First born is alive and healthy. Pmhx: Non. Medication: Non given. Onset of the Illness: The baby was well all along. They all retired to bed in the evening uneventful. Around 03:00 hours of today Friday 05/07/2019, the mother woke up to breastfeed the baby only to notice thick mucus plus white stuff coming from the Nostrils. The baby was not breathing. The couple shook the baby but there was no response. They rushed the baby to the Clinic where she was certified dead, hence took the body to the police for report.	1.68
24	Grandmother says the baby was taken for routine under 5 vaccinations last week with no problems. Around 0300hrs today she heard the baby cry and asked the mother to breast feed. Mother reported that the baby breast fed well, and both later fell asleep. Upon waking up this morning that is when they discovered that baby was not breathing.	1.77
25	Informant the grandmother. The baby was just fine active and feeding very well. So yesterday after breastfeeding the baby was sleeping when the mother checked on the baby she noticed some fluid running from the nostrils when she tried to lift the baby blood started coming out and the baby was not responding, we rushed to Chawama clinic the Doctor examined the baby we were told the baby is already dead.	1.81
26	The grandmother stated that " whilst the mother was sleeping in bed, she woke up in the night to check on the baby who was sleeping by her side., only to find the baby stiff, warm and not breathing. Shook the baby but there was no response. We were summoned to see the baby after ascertaining the baby was not breathing, we took the baby to George police where we got a police report then took the baby to UTH morgue, said to be dead 03-05-18 at 23:00 hrs.	2.2
27	The grandmother stated that" the baby walk up this morning very well, breast fed and thereafter slept. The mother went outside the house to attend to some domestic errands. When the mother went back in the house, she found the baby stiff not breathing, called the grandmother together took the baby to Chawama level 1 hospital were the doctor informed them that the baby was dead, and it was at 11:45 hours. We then brought the baby to UTH morgue."	2.33
28	According to the grandmother yesterday the baby was fine, active, and feeding well. Just in the night the mother woke up to feed the baby afterwards it slept, next time the mother went to check on the baby, she observed some blood and froth coming out of the nostrils and the mouth tried to shake the baby it was already dead. That is how we went to the police.	2.6
29	We were at the funeral gathering for one of our relatives where we had to spend nights. The child has been well all along at the funeral and didn't show any signs of illness, Fever or cough, and the child was breast feeding very well. I last breast fed the baby at about 05:00 early this morning and after breast feeding the baby, I put him on the mat to sleep while I continued with food preparations for the people at the funeral gathering. After about one hour, I decided to check on the baby where I had left him sleeping and found the baby dead. There was no sign of injury at all.	2.73
30	Sudden death	2.86

31	The child had a cough last week and was taken to the clinic and got treatment. Baby apparently looked well. The grandmother found baby not to be responsive when she tried to wake her up this morning.	2.89
32	Mother put the baby to bed after breast feeding then went to check on the baby and found the baby died with milk coming from the nose.	2.96
33	Informant: Grandfather " The baby was born at Palabana Clinic on 27-05-2018; normal delivery via SVD. Cried and sucked well. The baby was born from a family of 2 siblings and now remaining one alive aged 4 years old. He was receiving vaccinations at Palabana Clinic. The baby was very healthy all along. Sunday 26-08-18 around midday, the mother put the baby in bed as she was sleeping. At around 14:00 hours when she went to check on the baby with a view of breastfeeding him, she found the baby not breathing hence they took the dead baby to Palabana Police for Police report then brought the body here at Uth Morgue."	2.99
34	No problems were noted. Aunt was only notified by her niece in the early hours of today that baby was not responsive.	3.19
35	As a family we are all just confused, the baby was just okay she had no problem that we can point at and say this was a problem we would lie. She was surfed in the chair while the mother was busy cleaning up. The next time she went to check on the baby she found baby motionless, she screamed asking what is going on the elderly neighbor came in only to confirm the baby was dead. Right now, she is so confused, but as a family we would like a postmortem to be done so that we know what has killed this baby. (encouraged to go ahead with the postmortem).	3.51
36	Informant: Mother The baby was fine all along. Yesterday he slept around 10 hours and when she went to check on him, she found white stuff coming out from the nose and mouth. They rushed him to the clinic where he was pronounced dead. The clinic staff requested us to bring the baby UTH for certification of death.	3.71
37	The grandmother stated that" the baby was well all along until this morning 22-02-2018 around 04:00hrs when the mother was checking on the baby, only to find the baby not breathing. Took the baby to Mumbwa road police stations where we were advised to bring the body to UTH morgue as the baby was dead."	3.78
38	There is no history of ill health reported by the father. He said on the morning of the tragedy he left the family well and went for work. He was later called from work by the neighbor who said the baby was not ok. It was when he got home that his wife told him that the baby had been sleeping and she was outside doing some house chores. It was the neighbor who alerted her to say they were hearing the baby crying in the house. When she went to check on the baby, she found that the baby was limp and not responding to stimuli. They then called her husband who was at work. When he arrived, they took the baby to Mandeville clinic where they were informed that the baby had died, and they should go to the police. He wants a postmortem done to understand what really happened.	4.07
39	The grandmother reports being alerted to the incident on the fateful day. Upon arrival she found the baby had already died. She denies any knowledge of ill health in the baby. The mother also claimed that the baby was well with no cause for concern. She only reported	4.14

that the baby cried excessively in the night prior to death otherwise she did not notice any changes in baby's behavior.

- 40 Uncle reports having visited the family home where the child resides earlier in the day. He found the child well with no obvious complaints from the mother and grandmother. He only received a report in the early evenings that his child had died. 4.3
- 41 The father stated that a month ago, the baby was admitted at UTH ICU for organophosphorus poisoning. The baby recovered and was later discharged from the hospital. The mother and her baby went to stay with grandmother out of town just for change of the environment because they had lost the first-born daughter from the same poisoning. On 25th November 2018, the baby had fully recovered and this day they were planning to come back home in town. The baby was fed porridge that morning and then slept after eating. The mother started preparing for the journey back to town. When the mother went to check on the baby who was sleeping, she discovered the baby was NOT breathing. They brought the body to UTH police station BID and was certified dead. 4.63
- 42 The child was well yesterday even at bedtime. We went to bed together since we use the same bed me (father), the mother and the child. Without any noticed illness, we noticed the child dead on the bed at about passed midnight. There was no sign of injury noticed either. It was just sudden death Without any illness. 4.7
- 43 The auntie to the deceased stated that, " the baby was born at Chawama Clinic at term. Cried and sucked the breast well. The baby was receiving vaccinations at Chawama Clinic. The baby woke up well today Friday 10 -08-18 and was playing. The mother went outside the house to wash some clothes. The father remained with the baby inside the house attending to the porridge which was left on the brazier by the wife. When the porridge was ready, the father went outside the house to call his wife so that she could save the porridge to feed the baby, when they got inside the house, they found the baby lying on the floor frothing and breathing was slow. As they were planning to take the baby to the Clinic, she suddenly stopped breathing around 09:30 hours They took the baby to UTH Police where they obtained a Police report then brough the body here to the morgue." 5.06
- 44 The aunt stated that, " the mother left the baby sleeping in bed. Healthy baby. She went to attend to some household errands. When she went to the bedroom, she observed the baby was not breathing. Took the baby to the clinic where the baby was confirmed to be dead. 5.91
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Supplementary Table 2: Full narratives documenting possible Accidental suffocation and Strangulation in Bed (ASSB)

Obs.	Narrative	Age at Death, m
1	Informant: Grandmother The baby was well all along. The Mother and the baby went to sleep last night uneventful. This Morning of Wednesday 30-10-2019, around 05:00hours, the mother woke up to check on the baby, only to note that the baby was not breathing. The body was still warm. The grandmother was called as they live in the same household. She checked on the baby and witnessed that the baby was not breathing, had blood clots in the nostrils . She removed the clots then suddenly the blood started flowing from the Nostrils. The Mother and Grandmother sent for the father of the baby as at the time of the mother's advanced stage of pregnancy, she had gone to live with her parents up until she delivered. The Couple accompanied by the grandmother, took the body to Plain View Police Station for report then proceeded here to the UTH Morgue. Bhx. Born at Kanyama West Clinic via SVD. She cried and sucked well. The baby weighed 1900g. The mother's RVD Status when she was pregnant was NR. Body Exposure revealed mucous and blood clots clogged on the nasal floor.	0.92
2	The grandmother says the baby was found died in the morning with blood coming from nose and mouth. The twins were ok with no sign of illness.	0.95
3	Informant: Uncle Bhx: The baby was born on 03/06/2019 at Cheston Clinic. She was delivered via svd at term. Shx: 3rd born of the 3 siblings. The other 2 siblings are alive and healthy. Pmhx: Noncontributory Medication: Non given Onset of the illness: The baby was very well all along. Yesterday Thursday 04/07/2019, around 15:00 hours, the mother breastfed the baby there after the baby slept and she put her on the bed. The mother went to continue with her household errands. After 1 hour, she went to check on the baby only to note that the baby was lying in prone position muffled by the blanket. She turned the baby in supine position. She suddenly noticed that thick mucus mixed with blood were coming from the Nostrils. The baby was not breathing. She summoned the husband who tried to arouse the baby but to no avail. The couple rushed the baby to the Clinic, unfortunately could not make it. The Doctor informed the couple that the baby was brought in already dead.	1.02
4	Baby didn't get sick, I wanted to turn her then I felt the baby cold with blood coming from the mouth and nose. Immediately i called my neighbors and we waited until it was morning then we went to the police station then after being issued with police report we came here to the hospital. The baby was just okey the previous day, she was sucking well, no fever.	1.18
5	The child was not known to be sick, was well, breast feeding well. We went to bed in the evening with the child well. We use the same bed the three of us (mother, father and baby). When we woke up at night to check on the baby and have the baby breast fed by the mother, we noticed the child bleeding from the nose and mouth. We dont know for how long the child had been bleeding. She was born at 8 months of pregnancy and did not cry soon after birth. The child died at home before we could start off to the clinic.	1.25

- 6 The family came from Mumbwa visiting relatives here in Lusaka. The father says he cannot recall any incident of illness in the child. He is just shocked that when he woke up in the night to go to the bathroom, he discovered that the child was **bleeding from the nose**. Upon close inspection he realised that the child was not breathing. 1.28
- 7 The child has been doing well since birth. The only problem the child presented soon after birth was crying a lot and only calmed after given a breast. Last evening the child had some shot lived body hotness which disappeared without medication. Later in the night, the child had some difficulties in breathing but again recovered and slept calmly. Early this morning, we found the child lying still on the bed dead. **She had some blood coming out of her mouth and nose. The right side of the chest had the skin looking redish**. The child was on drug syrup she was given at birth at the hospital to prevent the child getting HIV from the mother. 1.35
- 8 Following baby death, she was okey when i reached home and i did play with her but she was crying and mother breastfeed her. Then early hours as mother was checking on her realised baby has died with blood like mucus coming from the nose then we went straight to the police to report. 1.38
- 9 The child was born at 8 months of pregnancy and so was admitted to UTH - D11 (neonatal ICU) for three weeks. After discharge, we kept the child home for 2 weeks and the child was very well and breast feeding well. Last night, we went to bed as usual, the child breast fed well at bedtime and once at midnight. Without any apparent illness, the child was found dead in the morning on the bed where he was sleeping. We could not understand the cause of the death. **The only thing we noticed was that the child had vomitus in the mouth which were still oozing from the mouth**. 1.41
- 10 Verbal Autopsy. Informant: Mother P/c. . Bleeding from the Mouth and Nostrils x few hours Onset of the Illness: The baby was well all along. Yesterday Tuesday 18/02/2020, the mother took the baby in the morning to Kanyama Level 1 Hospital for vaccinations there after went back home uneventfully. The baby was well all day. In the evening the mother went to sleep along with the baby uneventfully. The Mother woke up around 04:00 hours of today Wednesday 19-02-2020 to breastfeed the baby and thereafter she put the baby to sleep. Around 08:00 hours today, she woke up to check on the baby, **only to find the baby was bleeding from the Nostrils and Mouth**. He was not breathing but the body was still warm, hence she rushed the baby to Kanyama Level 1 Hospital accompanied by her neighbor as her husband was away to the Farm. Upon arrival at the Hospital, the baby was was rushed in the emergency room where the medical staff attended to him and later confirmed that, he was brought dead. Bhx: Born at Kanyama Level 1 Hospital at term via cesarean section due to Breech presentation. The baby cried and sucked well following delivery. The baby was the 5th born of 5 offsprings. The remaining 4 live children are said to be all health. Exposure of the Body: Revealed very healthy baby with dried blood clots on the floors of the Mouth and Nostrils. 1.61

- 11 Informant the grandmother. We are also confused because this baby from yesterday it was just fine and very active. The mother said she had only fed the baby once in the night but then this morning when the mother woke up, she noticed that the baby was not breathing quickly went to tell the neighbor who also came and confirmed that the baby was not breathing she also noticed fluid like milk coming out of the baby's nostrils. Went to report to the village headman who suspected foul play and asked the police to arrest the mother to the deceased so right now she is in the police custody. The father travelled to month we don't know what to tell him because this was his firstborn. 1.68
- 12 Informant: Father. The baby was born at Chawama 1st Level Hospital in multiple twin pregnancy at preterm (8months). She was born via Svd uneventful as the 1st twin. She was the 4th born of the 5 siblings. All the other 4 remaining siblings are alive and health. The babies were fine by the evening. They were breastfed and put to sleep by their mother. Around 19:00 hours of Monday 10/06/2019, the mother woke up to change the babies' nappies. She noted that the 1st twin was not breathing but the body was warm. **The baby was bleeding from the Nostrils and the eyes were swollen.** The couple rushed the baby to Chawama 1 st Level Hospital, as they arrived at the Hospital, the Doctor's examined the baby and informed them that the baby was dead. 2.33
- 13 Verbal Autopsy. Informant: Aunt Pc : . Bleeding from the eyes. Frothing from the mouth and nostrils * Duration not known. The baby was very fine and healthy all along. THE Mother went to bed to sleep along with the baby in the evening of Thursday 06-02-20 Uneventfully. Early hours of the Morning of today Friday 07-02-20, around 01:00 hours; the Mother woke up to check on the baby and noted that, the baby was not breathing. She was bleeding from the eyes and froth was coming out from the Mouth and Nostrils. Upon noting that the baby was not breathing, the baby was rushed to the University Teaching Hospital- Casualty department where the Doctors after examining the baby, informed the parents that the baby was already dead. Bhx: Born at Sikanze Police Hospital at term via Svd. Cried and sucked well. Only Child According to the parents, the baby's Vaccination record was up to date. Exposure of the body; Revealed some dried blood Stain on the lower left eyelid on a very healthy female baby. 4.04
- 14 The Aunt to the deceased stated that " The baby was well all along. Single young mother (divorced) with 3 siblings living in a family cottage. The surviving 2 siblings are all in good health. The baby woke up around 21:00 hours in the night of Tuesday 31-07-18 crying. The mother woke up, cuddled and breastfed the baby until he slept. The mother woke up early hours of Wensday 01-08-18 to prepare porridge for the baby. She did not check on the baby as she took it for granted that the baby was sleeping well. After having prepared the porridge, she went back to the bedroom to wake up the baby so that could feed him. She uncovered the baby off the blankets and suddenly noted that the baby was lying stiff and not breathing, milk was flowing from the mouth and nostrils and was cold to touch. The mother summoned other family members who accompanied her to Makeni police Post where they obtained a Police report around 04:00 hours then proceeded to the Uth Morgue." 4.27
- 15 Baby was fine the past days and also before we went to bed. At night she cried but thought it was normal cry. Around 04 in the morning noticed baby had cloth in the mouth and we went to report to the Police. 5.19

- 16 What I (grandmother) can say is that the child was not sick as such, it was the mother who was drunk who forgot that she was with a baby on the same bed and rolled over the baby. Yesterday, in celebration of Christmas, the mother decided to go for a drink with friends, but I (grandmother) got the baby from her. But when she came back from drinking, she got the baby in order to breast feed him. Then she went to her home since it was late in the evenings. Knowing that she was drunk last evening and that she has a baby, I decided to check on her in the morning. I found her crying with the baby on the bed. The child was dead with vomitus and blood from the mouth and nose. The abdomen looked compressed. And from that I new that she rolled over the baby at night. 5.72
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Supplementary Table 3: Representative narratives documenting symptomatic deaths due to respiratory causes.

Obs.	Narrative	Age at Death, m
1	Last month the baby developed cough and the baby was taken to the clinic and received amoxicillin antibiotic for 5 days and the baby got better, was sucking well. On the 15 th of Oct. Baby developed a flu with a cough that was in the morning it got worse in the evening same day then we rushed the baby to the clinic upon arrival we were told that the baby must have died on the way because there was no sign of life, and we were told to go to the police.	2.66
2	According to the grandmother the baby has not been well for some time it only lived well in the first month of life thereafter it got sick it had pneumonia and they were admitted in UTH for 8 days and they were discharged but still the baby remained unwell, but they didn't go back to UTH for review instead we went to the private hospital where the baby was put on injections for 10 days. (Can't remember the name of the drug). Still the baby did not recover completely it was just on and off with fever diarrhea and the cough continued until yesterday in the night the baby cried a lot and in the morning the mother tried to feed the baby it refused and then she put the baby at the back, the next thing the mother saw was the baby's neck became floppy that's how she called for help rushed to the clinic only to be told that the baby is dead and we were told that the baby had no blood.	3.71
3	When the baby was born it suffered flu which was treated there and then. Since then, the baby has been fine active and feeding well until yesterday when the baby developed flu and coughing but it was not that bad. We slept and this morning my wife tried to wake up the baby, but it was not responding she called me when I went and checked on the baby only to discover the baby was not breathing. Rushed to the clinic they just confirmed it and we were told to go to the police.	1.02
4	The baby has been suffering from chest pains and coughing for 2 weeks now. Earlier we took the baby to 11anyama clinic and was admitted for 2 days then we were discharged stayed home for few days just yesterday the baby started breathing fast again and the coughing worsened today we decided to take the baby to the clinic just upon arrival we were told the baby is dead.	3.06
5	Informant the grandfather. The child was with mother in Lusaka west, she told us that the baby started coughing 6days ago it was taken to the clinic where they were given a prescription to buy the medicine. But then 2days ago the cough got worse the baby was even failing to breastfeed that was when they rushed to our place so that we could help with the money to buy medicine, as we were planning to go to the clinic the baby died, and we went to the police.	1.64

Supplementary Table 4: Representative narratives documenting asymptomatic deaths due to other causes.

Obs.	Narrative	Age at Death, m
1	The baby was just ok except for some fever which was not serious after midnight we only observed some white stuff coming through the nose and the baby was not breathing took her to the clinic only to be told the child was dead go to the police.	0.36
2	The baby has been fitting since birth because it was a difficult delivery the baby did not cry; this has been on and off, but we used to manage at home. Yesterday the baby developed fever so this morning we took the baby to the clinic, and we were referred to UTH it was on the way that we discovered the baby was not breathing when we reached the hospital we were told to go to the police and report a death.	2.53
3	Informant the grandfather. This is a twin, and they were born prematurely but they were just okay until 3 days ago when we noticed the baby was having a problem when swallowing feeds so it could only take very little feeds at a time but then today it was not able to swallow anything. By the time we were preparing to go to the clinic the baby died that is how we went to the police.	1.87
4	Informant the grandmother. On Friday the baby developed a high temperature we took the baby to the clinic, we were given Panadol syrup, Septrin syrup and Piriton which we started giving the baby but then on Monday around 04:00hrs the condition got worse the baby started convulsing the whole body rushed the baby to Kanyama clinic and we were referred to UTH on the way the breathing changed when we arrived just when the doctor was examining the child it stopped breathing and we were told the baby has died we need to go to the police.	5.98
5	Informant the auntie, yesterday the was just fine until around 01:00hrs when the baby developed some fever and started crying, refusing to breastfeed we rushed the baby to Chilenje clinic, before we started off the baby's breathing changed it started gasping, upon arrival at the clinic we were told the baby is already dead that is when we went to the police.	0.49