

# INDOOR AIR POLLUTION RELATED RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN IN HAWASSA CITY, SOUTHERN ETHIOPIA, 2025.

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## Abstract

**Introduction:** Exposure to indoor air pollution is major risk factor for respiratory disease, heart diseases and lung cancer. It is estimated over 4 million people died globally because of household air pollution where most of these people live in low and middle income countries in Asia and Africa. In Ethiopia, indoor air pollution is responsible for more than 50,000 deaths annually and causes nearly 5% of disease burden. Women exposed to indoor smoke 3 times more likely to suffer from chronic bronchitis and other COPD than women who cook and heat with electricity, gas or other cleaner fuel. This study can be used to understand indoor air pollution, respiratory related disease and increase public awareness among pregnant women.

**Objective:** to assess Indoor air pollution related respiratory symptoms and associated factors among pregnant women's in Hawassa city, Southern Ethiopia, 2025.

**Method:** A community-based cross sectional study design was conducted. The study was conducted from March 1-15, 2025. Randomly selected pregnant women in Hawassa city were selected through simple random sampling (table of random sampling). About 197 samples will be selected.

**Result:** A total of 243 study participants were aimed in this study and 96.3% (234), were enrolled. The prevalence of respiratory symptoms among mothers in Hawassa city was 32.1% at 95% [CI: 26.4%–37.8%]. pregnant women who work in a poor (dusty or smelly) environment were 2.602 times more likely to develop respiratory symptoms than their counterparts (AOR = 2.602 at 95% CI: 1.122-6.036). Those respondents who had new carpet/furniture in HH were 1.134 times more likely to develop respiratory symptoms compared with their counterparts (AOR = 1.134 at 95% CI: 1.036-1.503).

**Conclusion:** The study enriches the prevalence of Indoor air related respiratory symptoms among pregnant women through different factors; The finding of this study revealed that dusty or smelly environment and presence of new carpet or furniture was associated with respiratory symptoms. The results can contribute to increasing knowledge on indoor air pollution related respiratory symptoms and necessary for suitable policy making.

**Key word:** indoor air pollution, pregnant women, respiratory symptom

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