

Table 1 Research projects conducted by the Choices and Challenges in Changing Childbirth research network.

Country	Observational studies	Policy studies	Examples of findings of interest	Intervention studies
Egypt	Birth practices in a teaching hospital.	Analysis of the policy environment affecting postpartum practices in a teaching hospital.	Routine use of harmful and unnecessary delivery and postpartum practices.	Evaluating providers' training approach in decreasing harmful delivery and postpartum practices in a teaching hospital. Evaluating written materials on postpartum health.
Palestine	Policies and practices of childbirth in maternity facilities in West Bank.	Developing perinatal health policy in a situation of conflict.	Routine use of early amniotomy in maternity facilities.	Amniotomy vs intent to conserve the membranes in normal labour: a randomized controlled trial.
Syrian Arab Republic	Women's perceptions and experiences of childbirth in relation to caregiver.		Lack of organized postpartum health care delivery system. Low use of postpartum services by women.	Evaluating a postpartum home visiting package in reducing adverse maternal and neonatal health outcomes. Training in interpersonal competence to change providers' behaviour.
Lebanon	Policies and practices of normal labour and delivery in a national sample of hospitals. Women's perceptions and experiences of childbirth.	Analysis of the environment of caesarean section practices.	Low use of postpartum services by women. Lack of women's involvement in the process of care.	Effect of written material on postpartum health in improving uptake of postpartum services. Mobilizing women to change maternity practices: a cluster randomized controlled trial.