

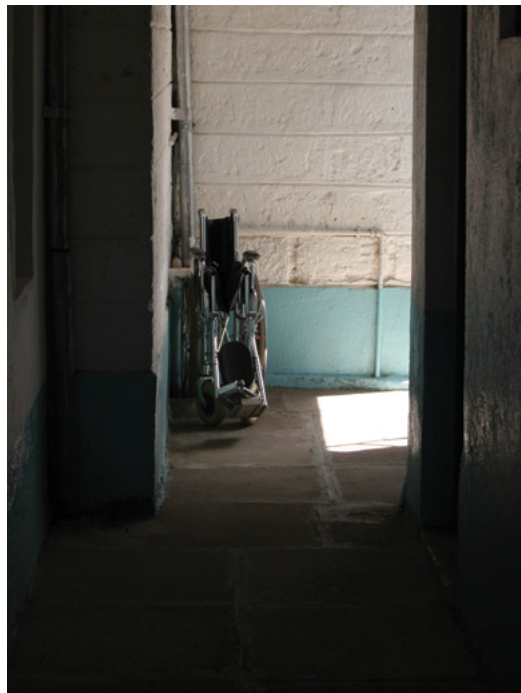
Provider Snapshot: **Evelyne Mutio**



Midwife *Evelyne Mutio*
has been in practice in a densely
populated area in Nairobi since 1988.
She has devoted her professional
life to midwifery—she has taught
midwives for more than 25 years and
was a delegate to the United Nations
1976 Year of the Woman.



**“I think it’s wrong
to avoid the word
abortion,”** she says,
aware that while it’s
a hot-button issue
around the world,
it’s a subject that
must be addressed
and care that must
be provided.





Mutio started a small, two-room clinic for mothers and babies early on and then expanded to the modest, multi-room family and women's clinic she runs today with 20 staff.

Mutio was trained in 1999 during a pilot project aimed at demonstrating that midwives could successfully provide safe, quality post-abortion care (PAC) services using manual vacuum aspiration (MVA). She immediately began offering the services. "I was one of the first," she says. "Now no one has an excuse not to know or teach post-abortion care," she adds, noting that the situation in Kenya has changed over the years.

"Just having PAC on my sign caused me problems in the beginning; but not now." In Kenya, abortion was illegal except to save a woman's life

until 2010. Now, the new Kenyan constitution allows for legal abortion on much broader terms.

Mutio does provide safe abortions in her clinic now—primarily to women who cannot pay for the services. She's pleased that "technology has brought change and sexuality is part of public discussion now, particularly on the radio," she says.

More than a decade ago, a young woman came to her clinic seeking an abortion. She was actually so far into her pregnancy that she delivered a healthy baby girl. The woman slipped away; clearly not ready to be a parent. After trying to no avail to find the baby a home, Evelyne's husband and son said "Why don't you just bring her home?" She did. Her daughter, named Precious, is thriving.





“We are still struggling in many ways but now the new constitution is really helping women get to the services they need, including safe abortion,” she says.



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