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Mendefera, 15 July 2010 – The National Fistula Center in Mendefera has conducted successful surgery on 650 mothers, according to Dr. Habte Hailemelekot, Director of the Center and Maternity Department in the Referral Hospital of the Southern region.

In an interview he conducted with ERINA, he said that the center which has commenced its work in 2006, has performed repeated surgeries to 800 mothers out of whom 650 were completely discharged from the hospital and the remaining are still following medical check-ups.

Pointing out that the main causes of fistula is underage marriage and pregnancy, female circumcision, complications during child birth; Dr. Habte said that fistula cases have dropped by 80% as a result of pre-and-post delivery medical check-ups in the center.

Ms. Halima Osman from Adi-Keih sub-zone said that she is now in a better health situation and commended the service she obtained in the center. Similarly, Ms. Fatimm Mohammednur, disclosed that she underwent surgery three times and has shown improvement in her health. She also lauded the free of charge service she received.

Moreover, Ms. Amna Adem from Fanko, Tesennei sub-zone, who encountered fistula during delivery and now she is recovering from it after frequently surgery. Ms. Amna expressed appreciation to the Government's efforts to ensure the health status of citizens.