

Woman shot by Police suffers stillbirth

MITYANA

By Luke Kagiri

Dinah Nabakooza was five months pregnant when she went to Buluma town to buy some items. She also had a three-year-old child on her back. That was in April this year.

While at the trading centre, armed policemen from the Flying Squad department of the Uganda Police, arrived and started firing bullets. A stray bullet hit the child in her back and it died instantly.

Nabakooza sustained injuries and was admitted to Mityana Hospital, then later transferred to Mulago Hospital.

Last week, she went into labour and was admitted to Mityana Hospital, where she underwent a C-section a few days later, but her baby was found dead – a stillbirth.

Nabakooza and her relatives have no kind words for the Uganda Police and medics at



Nabakooza at the maternity ward in Mityana Hospital. Photo by Luke Kagiri

Mityana Hospital.

"It is too much pain, but I pray that I go through it. I usually have normal births, but this time, I had to undergo surgery,"

Nabakooza said.

She blames the medics at the hospital for what she calls neglecting her, which she says led to the death of her baby.

"We kept on asking them for help, telling them that I was in pain, but they did not mind. We brought scan results, which indicated that the baby was

Nabakooza's three-year-old child was killed by a stray bullet in April, while strapped to her back

not positioned well, but they ignored us.

"After operating on me, I had one saying that the baby heard died two days earlier," Nabakooza said.

Nabakooza's husband, Pio Kato, has been in tears since last Friday, following the death of his second child.

"The Police shot and killed my child and injured my wife. Since

then, I have been suffering, looking for money for treatment and now the medics have acted carelessly, leading to the loss of my baby," Kato said.

He said his wife spent a week in the hospital in pain and that medics kept giving them unclear information.

"We wanted everything to go well, so we kept consulting them, but they seemed unconcerned. We went to the scan outside the hospital and they told us that the baby was not fine, but they neglected the results," Kato said.

He noted that his wife had three normal deliveries before the stillbirth.

Hospital authorities refused to comment on the matter.

The resident district commissioner for Mityana, Yahaya Kakooza, said he had heard the complaint and would follow it up.

This comes just a few months after a mother died in labour in Mityana Hospital, after failing to pay sh5,000 for medication.