Web Table 1: Risk of bias in included studies

Parameter	Nepal trial	Bangladesh trial	Pakistan trial
Sequence generation	**Low risk** **Quote:** "Sectors (clusters) were randomised with a computerized random number generator, with assignment blocked on tertiles of sector-wise infant mortality risk estimated with data from a previous NNIPS study."	**Low Risk** **Quote:** "Randomization was done by generating random allocation sequences in STATA (version 10 9.2)"	**Low risk** **Quote:** "Using a 2x2 factorial design, the clusters were randomly allocated to one of the four groups using computer-generated random numbers"
Allocation concealment	**Low Risk** **Comment:** Since it is a cluster randomized trial, allocation concealment should not be an issue as in this design all clusters are randomized at once.	**Low Risk** **Comment:** Since it is a cluster randomized trial, allocation concealment should not be an issue as in this design all clusters are randomized at once.	**Low Risk** **Comment:** Since it is a cluster randomized trial, allocation concealment should not be an issue as in this design all clusters are randomized at once.
Blinding	**Low risk** **Quote:** "Study investigators, analysts, project field workers, and participants were masked to the chlorhexidine and	**High Risk** **Quote:** "Workers and participants in the study were not masked to group allocation."	**High Risk:** **Quote:** "The CHWs maintained close liaison with TBAs, were informed of all pregnancies 22 and

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	to the soap and water treatments."		provided TBAs with birth kits as per requirement" Comment: Most probably not done
Missing data	**Low risk** **Comment:** Number and reasons for those excluded and loss to follow up were given in the text.	**Low risk** **Comment:** Number and reasons for those excluded and loss to follow up were given in the text.	**Low risk** **Comment:** Number and reasons for those excluded and loss to follow up were given in the text.
Selective outcome reporting	**Low risk** **Comment:** All the *a priori* mentioned outcomes in protocol were reported.	**Low risk** **Comment:** All the *a priori* mentioned outcomes in protocol were reported.	**Low risk** **Comment:** All the *a priori* mentioned outcomes in protocol were reported.