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**mexico**  
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REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH  
SUPPLIES COALITION

## Essential Medicines for Maternal Health: Ensuring Equitable Access for All

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AVAILABILITY



QUALITY



EQUITY



CHOICE

## THREE ESSENTIAL MEDICINES for MATERNAL HEALTH

Access to safe, effective medicines can prevent or treat leading causes of maternal death:

Oxytocin  
Misoprostol  
Magnesium Sulfate

### ESSENTIAL MEDICINES FOR MATERNAL HEALTH



Ensuring  
Equitable  
Access  
for All



## KEY BARRIERS TO ACCESS

Availability, Equity, Quality and Choice



**Insufficient quantities** in the public health sector (lack of data, policy and funding challenges)



**Poor-quality products** available and used in the public and private sector (lack of regulation, inadequate transport and storage, improper packaging)



**Inefficiencies in the health system** (e.g. logistics information system, weak infrastructure to reach communities)



**Lack of information and clear guidance** to support correct use by health providers and demand from women and families

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Maternal Health  
Supplies

=

Reproductive Health  
Supplies

## MH SUPPLIES = RH SUPPLIES

- National systems are moving toward integrated supply chains
- Wide range of RHS tools and resources adapted for MHS
- Lessons from RHS can inform MHS



## MH SUPPLIES = RH SUPPLIES

**National systems are moving toward integrated logistics and supply chains**

- **Ethiopia**
- **Nicaragua**
- **Nepal**



## Wide range of RHS tools and resources adapted for MHS

- AccessRH: online procurement and information platform
- Reproductive Health Interchange: assist in procurement planning and monitoring
- SPARHCS for maternal health



## Lessons from increasing access to RHS can inform MHS:

- **Budget advocacy**
- **Contraceptive security committees**
- **Distribution through community health workers**

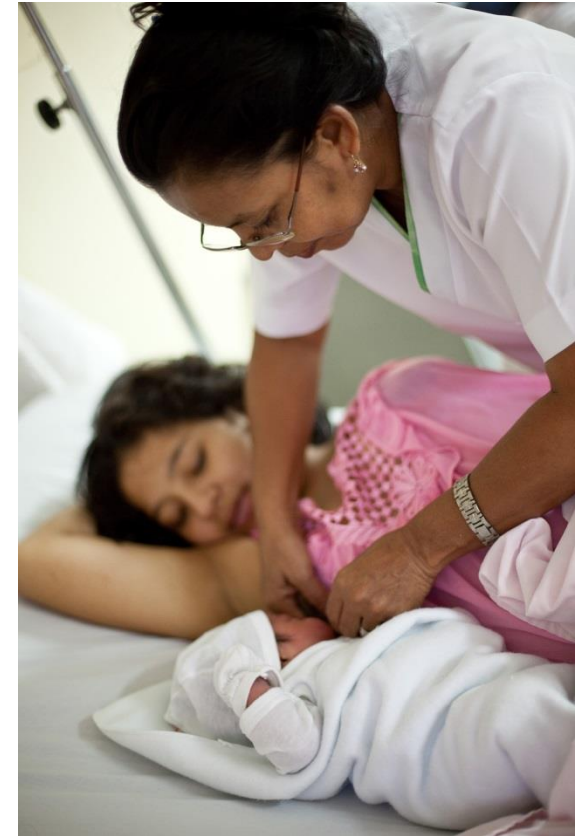




## MH SUPPLIES = RH SUPPLIES

### Lessons from increasing access to RHS can inform MHS (cont.):

- Procurement of quality products
- Training and ongoing support for health providers
- Generating demand among women and communities



## PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR INCREASING ACCESS

- **Develop evidence-based policies and ensure financial investment**
- **Procure high-quality medicines and maintain quality**
- **Strengthen information and supply chain systems**
- **Improve providers' knowledge and skills**

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To access the briefs visit:



**Essential Medicines for Maternal Health:  
Ensuring Equitable Access for All**  
Seven briefs on challenges and solutions  
for expanding access to 3 life-saving  
medicines — oxytocin, misoprostol,  
and magnesium sulfate.

 Reproductive Health  
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[www.rhsupplies.org](http://www.rhsupplies.org)  
[www.familycareintl.org](http://www.familycareintl.org)