



Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition

Maternal Health Supplies Caucus

9 October 2013



Reproductive Health
SUPPLIES COALITION

A Little Bit of History

- ❖ NURHT Caucus suggests formation of a task force on MHS
- ❖ Task force meets for the first time in November 2011 and works on recommendations
- ❖ RHSC Executive Committee establishes MHS Caucus
- ❖ Inaugural meeting during October 2012 Annual RHSC Meeting in Paris

Executive Committee

Secretariat

Advocacy & Accountability Working Group

Systems Strengthening Working Group

Market Development Approaches Working Group

Objective 1 Core support and Innovation Fund
Objective 2 Market shaping initiative
Objective 3 Stockouts initiative
Objective 4 Commitments initiative

SECONAF Forum
LAC Forum
Maternal Health Supplies Caucus
New and Underutilized RH Technologies Caucus

What is a Caucus?

- ❖ Community of practice around a thematic area
- ❖ Implementing mechanism
- ❖ Operates through the Working Groups
- ❖ Ideally, all Caucus members also belong to at least one WG or Regional Forum

Task Force Recommendations

Short-Term

- ❖ Increase RHSC engagement with the MH community
- ❖ Increase membership of MH organizations and representatives in the RHSC
- ❖ Continue engagement with other convening groups working on MHS
- ❖ Create community of practice within RHSC
- ❖ Disseminate RHSC tools, resources, and lessons learned



Task Force Recommendations

Long-Term

- ❖ Utilize AccessRH and Pledge Guarantee for Health (PGH)
- ❖ Adapt RHSC tools and resources
- ❖ Build the evidence base for MH
- ❖ Create a small-grants fund within the RHSC dedicated to MHS activities

2013 Achievements

- ❖ Formalized identity
- ❖ Obtained donor support
- ❖ Have our own microsite within the RHSC website
- ❖ Participation in the UNCoLSC—MH TRT and MH Tools subgroup
- ❖ Regular link to other MH groups
 - Maternal Health Supplies Working Group: co-led by PAI and PATH
 - Maternal Health Task Force at the Harvard School of Public Health
 - PATH Advocacy Project
 - UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children (UNCoLSC)

2013 Achievements

- ❖ Inventory of tools prepared by UNCoLSC/MHS Tools subgroup
- ❖ 46 tools identified and described in one-pagers
- ❖ Tools classified using the SID categories (RHSC repository of information)
- ❖ Co-hosted a side presentation on MHS at Women Deliver

List of Tools in SID

Ref #	Tool	Author/ Developer	Details	Overall Purpose (Category)	Purpose: Sub- category	Type of tool	Type of Commodity	Specific Commodities
1	A Forecasting Guide for New and Underused Methods (NUMS) of Family Planning	JSI, PSI, IRH	This guide provides direction to programs that want to forecast for new and underused methods (NUMs) of family planning. It supports program managers and others involved in forecasting as they plan to (1) introduce a contraceptive technology for the first time in a country, and/or (2) position an underused method for scale up. It offers a framework for building rational assumptions to support accurate forecasting for NUMs or any family planning method where future demand is inherently difficult to predict. It also identifies common pitfalls in NUMs forecasting and recommends strategies to avoid them.	Quantification and Forecasting	Assumptions building	Guide	Reproductive health	
2	AccessRH	RHSC, UNFPA Managed by UNFPA	AccessRH is a reproductive health procurement and information initiative that improves access to quality, affordable sexual and reproductive health (RH) commodities and reduces delivery times for low- and middle-income country government and NGOs partners. AccessRH also offers up-to-date information on contraceptive shipments for more than 140 countries worldwide through a website that is unique in the field.	Procurement and supply planning	Procuring;	Online portal	Reproductive health	Female condoms, implants, emergency contraceptives;
3	Advocacy Toolkit	RHSC	The advocacy toolkit and guide is a practical, evidence-based tool designed to foster policy change for increased commitment to RH supplies. It provides an essential guide to advocacy communications and messages, a range of five global supply shortage scenarios, adaptable to your country's own needs and a set of tools, including policy briefs, PowerPoint presentations and advocacy planning guides.	Advocacy	Policy	Toolkit	Reproductive health	General
4	AMTSL Training Materials	POPPHI	Presentations on pregnancy complications, birthing plans, uterotonics management, and prevention of PPH and infections.	Use	Advocacy	Training materials	Maternal health	Oxytocin; Misoprostol

Challenges

- ❖ Staff changes at RHSC and partner organizations
- ❖ Same people attending various meetings on MHS
- ❖ Unclear boundaries of each MHS working group
- ❖ Delay in finding information and drafting RFP for small grants/contracts funds
- ❖ Virtual communications: technology, lack of face-to-face interaction, volunteerism

Request for Proposals

1. A series of briefs to:
 - Explore the important developments in the MHS field to date
 - Identify successful approaches, lessons learned, and methodologies for scaling up recommended approaches, pertinent bibliography and success stories.
 - Identify knowledge and action gaps
 - Demonstrate areas where collaboration under the RHSC could add value to the MHS community

Request for Proposals

2. Address knowledge gaps:

The objective is to fill some of the knowledge gaps in the MHS sector that may not be addressed by UNCoLSC. Possible gaps may include on-the-spot research, technical reviews, or other knowledge-seeking activities required by UNCoLSC.

The effort will explicitly bridge the divides between the FP and MHS communities, using the strengths of FP commodity security to address gaps in MH. A potential area for such inquiry is an estimation of the global demand for the three focus MHS commodities, which can lead to more robust forecasting, budgeting, production, and procurement. This estimation could then serve for the UN Commission-led estimations to be conducted at the country level.

Work plan 2014

Group 1 – Advocacy

Group 2 – Marketing

Group 3 – Estimations

Group 4 – Producers

Group 5 – Country focus



Work plan 2014

Questions:

1. What is RHSC capable of doing?
2. What can you contribute?
3. What is missing?

