Maternal Health Supplies Caucus

2015: A Year of Progress

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The origin of our MHS Caucus

• NURHT Caucus suggests formation of a task force on MHS
• Task force meets for the first time in November 2012 and produces recommendations
• RHSC Executive Committee decides to establish the new Caucus
• October 2012 during Paris Annual RHSC Meeting - inaugural meeting.
Executive Committee

Secretariat

Resource Mobilization and Awareness 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 methods caucus

Members
Groups focused on Maternal Health Supplies

Maternal Health Technical Resource Team

• One of the working groups under the UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children
• Focuses on oxytocin, misoprostol and magnesium sulfate
• Activities have mostly concentrated on information gathering and resource development
  • Mapping of inclusion of misoprostol on essential medicines lists
  • Inventory of tools for maternal health
  • Framework for commodity security for maternal health
  • Cases studies on integration of oxytocin in the cold chain

Maternal Health Supplies Caucus of RHSC

• Began in 2012 to provide a forum for the maternal health and family planning communities to draw on existing approaches to address the bottlenecks undermining commodity security across health systems
Key Accomplishments: Information Sharing

In coordination with the MDWG, conducted 2 webinars in January 2015 to disseminate the information briefs and business cases.

Oxytocin, Misoprostol and Magnesium Sulfate Briefs

• Focus on the main challenges related to ensuring availability and use of these 3 medicines.
• Examples of successful approaches, case studies, and lessons learned from programs to scale-up MHS.
• Recommendations on how RHSC tools/experiences can strengthen efforts to improve access to MHS.

Business cases on supporting investment in high-quality MHS

Estimate market size for each commodity and issue policy recommendations/potential market shaping strategies for improving investment in high-quality MHS
Key Accomplishments: Engagement

Strengthened engagement and coordination with global MH bodies and initiatives

- **MH TRT:**
  - Routine participation in meetings/teleconferences.
  - Technical input provided to country implementation plans.
  - Translation into Spanish of the WHO UNICEF joint statement on oxytocin in the cold chain.

- **MH Task Force/Harvard University:** Organized a blog series on MHS launched in March 2015.

- Provided technical input to the Global Strategy for Women and Children.
Key Accomplishments: New Initiatives

Secured support from MacArthur Foundation to scope the landscape of maternal health market shaping initiatives.

Objective 1: Broaden understanding of the potential for market shaping to increase access to high-quality, affordable maternal health supplies by bridging the knowledge gap between the reproductive health/family planning and maternal health communities.

Objective 2: Field test the potential impact of a market-shaping initiative by implementing one or more concrete recommendations from the three essential maternal health medicines business cases.
MacArthur Grant: Key Activities

Objective 1:
Activity 1.1: Commission a comprehensive landscape analysis of the role market shaping can play in improving the effectiveness of MH markets.
Activity 1.2: Disseminate the knowledge and lessons learned from FP market shaping at meetings and through webinars and other high-level events.
Activity 1.3: Convene a meeting with international partners to identify market-shaping recommendations for implementation on the ground.

Objective 2:
Activity 2.1: Through a request for proposal process, select and fund one or more proposals that will allow one or more specific MH supplies market-shaping recommendations to be implemented at the country level.
Activity 2.2: Disseminate the results or findings of the implemented intervention(s).
MacArthur Grant: Award

Awarded contract to F4D to conduct a comprehensive landscape analysis of the role market shaping can play in improving the effectiveness of MH markets.

For more information come to the afternoon session with F4D.
Persistent Challenges

For all three commodities:
- Harmonization of policies
  Standard treatment guidelines, NEMLs and the list of products registered in country need to be aligned
- Forecasting and supply planning
  Commodities are included in logistics management information systems in very few countries
  HMIS do not capture necessary morbidity data
- Quality
  Assuring the quality of products that circulate in both the public and private sectors remains a major challenge in many countries
- Financing
  Medicines typically procured with government funding

For Oxytocin: cold storage

For Misoprostol: availability of 3-blister packs; scale up

For Magnesium sulfate: presentation; provider demand
Members’ Accomplishments

- Inclusion of Misoprostol for the treatment of PPH in the WHO model EML.
- Prequalified oxytocin from Grindeks.
- MgSO4 with simpler and better language on WHO EML.
- Successful Concept Foundation MH procurement workshop in Kampala September 2015.
- Joint Statement WHO/UNICEF on EPI cold chain for oxytocin and tested in Mali and Burkina Faso.
- Population Council Global Coalition on PE/E.
- Informed Push Model Senegal.
- 30,000 women Phase 3 heat stable carbetocin non-inferiority trial vs Oxytocin by WHO has initiated (supported by Merck for Mothers) which makes heat stable Carbetocin the most advanced heat-stable uterotonics under clinical development.
Maternal Health Supplies are Reproductive Health Supplies