New and Underused RH Technologies Caucus
Background and 2012 Update
Background
What is the NURHT Caucus?

• Community of Practice
• Purpose: to contribute to country level efforts to achieve MDG 5
• Approaches:
  – Broaden discussion within Coalition on NURHTs
  – Collaborate with Coalition Implementing Mechanisms
What do we mean by “new”? 

• **New** RH technologies are those that are new to a global or country market, and are currently available for procurement.
What do we mean by “underused”?

- **Underused** RH technologies are those that are not routinely available in the public, private, or social marketing sectors, as well as those technologies not routinely procured by the major procurers.
The technologies discussed by the Caucus are those that:

• can expand choice in a reproductive health program focused on family planning and/or maternal health,

• add value to the method mix or medical response, and

• respond to the needs of the clients.
Coalition Structure

- 1 Executive Committee
- 1 Secretariat
- 3 Working Groups
- 2 Regional Forums
- 2 Caucuses
Coalition Structure

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- 2 Caucuses

Implementing Mechanisms
Coalition Structure (cont.)
Coalition Structure (cont.)

• Implementing mechanism, but not a Working Group
• Operates *through* the Working Groups
  – Include Regional Forums in the future
  – Liaisons to each WG
• All Caucus members also belong to at least one WG or Forum
Updates
June 2011 – October 2012

Maternal Health Supplies:
• Launched Maternal Health Supplies Task Force (Nov. 2011)
• Made recommendations to the Executive Committee (June 2012)
• Formed new Caucus on Maternal Health Supplies (Launch today!)
• New Product Briefs added
June 2011 – October 2012

NUMS Guide:
• Completed in September
• Brownbags to USAID, JSI, PATH
• Webinar scheduled for Oct. 24th
• Generating a lot of interest
June 2011 – October 2012

Product Briefs:

• Completed annual update in May, launched June

• Added 3 new MHS briefs
  – Magnesium Sulphate
  – Misoprostol
  – Oxytocin

• Now total 13 briefs

June 2011 – October 2012

UN Commission:

• Incorporated 3 family planning products per RHSC/NURHT Caucus recommendation
• Adopted our definition of “underused”
• NURHT members participating in preparatory meetings and ongoing follow up
Outstanding activities:

- Editorial in journal *Contraception*
- Ensuring NURHTs on WHO Essential Medicines List
Challenges

• Delayed production of briefs
• Liaison system not functioning as actively as in the past
• Little progress in identifying new activities with IMs
• Need to engage RMAWG
Opportunities

• NURHTs built into Coalition vision for the future
• New WG leadership, new activities with NURHT potential
• UN Commission-implementation of recommendations
• Partnership with MHS Caucus
Information

• Upcoming teleconferences:
  – October 23rd, 2012
  – January 15th, 2013

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• Website:
  http://www.rhsupplies.org/working-groups/caucus-on-newunderused-rh-technologies.html