Keeping Rights at the Center of Sexual, Reproductive and Maternal Health - Why Does It Matter?

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Session objectives

- Setting the context
- What do we mean by rights?
- Rights leads to results
Overview | Setting the Context

- MDG 5 – reducing maternal mortality and ensuring universal access to reproductive health remains a challenge
- Worldwide, 287,000 maternal deaths occur annually, 99% in developing countries
- In 2012, 222 million women had an unmet need for contraception and 80 million unintended pregnancies occurred
Overview | Setting the Context

Reinvigorated efforts and opportunities:

- UN Secretary-General’s *Every Woman, Every Child*
- Family Planning 2020 (FP2020)
- Post-2015 Agenda
- 20th anniversary of International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)
What do we mean by rights?
Rights Principles

• Participation, inclusion and voice
• Agency and autonomy
• AAAQ
  ✓ Availability
  ✓ Accessibility
  ✓ Acceptability
  ✓ Quality
• Non-discrimination, equity
• Accountability and transparency
Rights Principles in Practice

- Confident in ability to participate in decisions & freely access services
- Supported by gender equitable norms in household, community & facility
- Patient-centered care
- Evidence-based information, education & services
- Broad range of methods available & accessible
- Providers trained & equipped
- Privacy & confidentiality respected
- Legal, policy & financial barriers removed
- Aware of rights to quality & choice
- Confident in ability to participate in decisions & freely access services
- Supported by gender equitable norms in household, community & facility
- Patient-centered care
- Evidence-based information, education & services
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A rights-based approach to FP: Why does it matter?

- Evidence shows that respecting, protecting and fulfilling rights contributes to health outcomes

- In other words, RIGHTS \(\rightarrow\) RESULTS

- Monitoring indicators of rights realization enables programs to identify gaps and opportunities in services and supports more women and girls in achieving their reproductive goals
Quality services improve impact

- Services that offer:
  - privacy
  - confidentiality
  - informed choice
  - and a range of methods

- Increase client use, satisfaction and contraceptive continuation.

Receiving Contraceptive of Choice Increases Continuous Use

Indonesia

% of Continuous Use

Option A
1 Hour
50

Option B
3 Hours
300
Option B is the first choice

Kruk et al 2009 Am J Pub Health
It is not only about quality, but also long term strategy

- Respecting rights ensures user-centric designs and sustained interest, e.g. services for youth
  - Participation, inclusion and voice
  - Agency and autonomy

- Supports universal access and ensures that services align with policy, commitments and law, e.g. coercion and omission subvert goals
  - Non-discrimination, equity
  - Accountability and transparency
Rights  ➔  Results