Measuring Maternal Health in a Post-MDG World

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What do we measure now?

Global benchmark indicators

• Skilled birth attendance

• Antenatal Care attendance (1,2,3,4 visits)
Contrast with child health benchmark indicators
Why contact indicators are problematic


30 countries with 90% of deaths globally
Possible sources for more robust ("content") data

• Secondary data sources
  – National household surveys (DHS, MICS)
  – National facility assessments (SPA, SARA, others)

• Health Management Information System (HMIS), i.e., routine information
Are household surveys the answer?

Measuring Coverage in MNCH: Testing the Validity of Women’s Self-Report of Key Maternal and Newborn Health Interventions during the Peripartum Period in Mozambique

C. Stanton, B. Rawlins, M. Drake, M. Dos Anjos, L. Chavane, D. Cantor, M. Vaz, L. Chongo, J. Ricca
Study design to test maternal recall

**Step 1:** Observe Labor & Delivery Care (525 labors/births observed in 46 facilities across MZ in Quality of Care Study)

**Step 2:** Wait for 8-10 months

**Step 3:** Conduct household interviews
   1) Standard DHS/MICS questions
   2) Additional questions

**Step 4:** Compare, determining validity of respondents’ reports
Few indicators met validity criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>Individual Accuracy</th>
<th>Population Accuracy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Woman delivered in a hospital versus a health center</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woman had a companion present during the labor or delivery</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newborn is placed skin to skin on mother's chest</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
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Facility Assessments – “readiness-quality gap”

- Infection prevention during initial assessment
- Partograph used during labor
- Oxytocin use in third stage of labor
- Magnesium sulfate use for PE/E
- Cord cut with clean instrument

Legend:
- Unexplained
- SBA not present
- Commodity not present
- Women who received the intervention
HMIS as a possible source of data

PROS
• Readily available
• Regularly reported
• Promotes good habits of data use

CONS
• Incomplete and inaccurate reporting
• “Incomplete picture” – only public sector facilities
Promising Approaches

METHODS: Possible need for novel approaches
• Linked facility-population surveys

CONTENT: Simple but meaningful indicators
• Late stillbirth + Very Early Newborn Deaths
• Uterotonic in third stage of labor
• Prolonged labor
• MgSO4 for PE/E
• C section rate (?)
• Partograph use (?)
• Components of ANC / PPC