

Why Quality Data Management is Critical for Reproductive Health Innovation

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Introduction

- The lack of accurate data is the most serious current challenge in reproductive health
- Reproductive health focusses on births, deaths and reproductive health disabilities.
- Accurate data to measure trends in these indicators are currently lacking in many African countries.

Innovation and RH

- Innovation is defined as the process of creating new ideas, devices or methods
- Innovation is not possible without accurate data collection and use
- In our circumstances, innovation relates principally to how to improve access to quality reproductive health services to our people.
- Without accurate data, it will be difficult to identify areas needing quality care improvements

Quality of Care in Reproductive Health

- Without high quality data, we cannot implement quality reproductive health care
- Quality reproductive health care is central to efforts to improve the various indicators of maternal health and to promote social living for numerous populations of women and men.

Definition of Quality of Care

Definition of QOC is complex and includes:

- Technical competency
- Women (clients) place emphasis on the human elements of care
- Program managers focus on support systems such as logistics and record keeping
- Policymakers and donors are concerned with costs, efficiency, outcomes and impact on health investments

Without accurate, none of the quality of care frameworks and expectations would be achieved

The Bruce-Jain Framework of Quality of Care in RH

This consists of components:

- Choice of a RH treatment or prevention method
- Quality of information given to patients
- Technical competence
- Inter-personal relationships
- Continuity and follow-up
- Appropriate Constellation of services

Measuring Quality of Care

Some tools for measuring QOC:

- Point of service data collection – useful for longitudinal measures
- Service Availability Module (SAM) – an addition to DHS
- Situation Analysis (SA) – the Population Council
- Service Provision Assessment (SPA) – a combination of SAM and SA (Measure Evaluation, 2002)

Other Uses of Data in RH

- To inform policy-making
- To guide accurate program development
- For evidence-based advocacy

Evidence-Based Advocacy

- Essential to ensure that policymakers and other stakeholders act on an essential RH information
- Reasons for non-action are often due to lack of accurate information
- With good data analysed in the most accurate manner and presented with novelty, policymakers would be more likely to act on health reform.

How to ensure data accuracy and effectiveness

- Use of good research designs and appropriate research methods
- Ensuring appropriate data collection method
- Proper data collation and analysis
- Use of the proper data analysis methods, including multivariate analysis to eliminate confounding
- Accurate results presentation in a simplified manner
- And wide dissemination of the results

Why is data management so daunting in Nigeria?

- Lack of an institutional culture of data collection and data management
- Poor capacity to manage data and report on essential elements of data
- Poor dissemination of data – some researchers even hide data!
- Poor use of data for decision-making by policymakers

CERHI's Theory of Change on Data Management

Good data collection – Good Data management
– Accurate data analysis – simple presentation
of data and results – widespread dissemination
of research results – linkage with policy and
industry
= effective RH impact

THANK YOU