



Health Commodities and Services Management

USAID KENYA



Health Commodities and Services Management provides support to the Kenyan Division of Malaria Control in determining the quantities of malaria kits needed, developing a national rollout plan, and training on use and reporting of Rapid Diagnostic Tests throughout the country.

Presidential Initiative:
U.S. Global Health Initiative

Funding Level:
\$25 million

Duration:
April 2011 – March 2016

- Activity Goals:**
- Support establishment and strengthening of systems for improved health commodity management at service delivery level
 - Strengthen systems for pharmaceutical service delivery
 - Support information management systems for health commodities and pharmaceutical services between national and service delivery levels

- Activity Accomplishments:**
- ARV ordering points (medications for HIV/AIDS) increased from 287 in September 2012 to 310 in September 2013
 - Use of the ARV Dispensing Tool increased by 19% from 306 sites in Sept 2012, to 364 in Sept 2013
 - Availability of malaria diagnostics at health facilities has improved from 65% in Sept 2012 to 90% in Sept 2013

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

The Health Commodities and Services Management activity is designed to address gaps in commodity management, pharmaceutical policy and services, and laboratory systems with a goal of strengthening commodity management systems for improved health outcomes and greater impact.

ACTIVITY AREAS

The activity has adopted a systems strengthening model that seeks to improve local capacity to lead and manage service delivery and health commodity management. The activity focuses on three key areas –

Commodity Management Support The activity works with the Ministries of Health to strengthen stewardship and technical leadership in supply chain management and commodity security including effective coordination and harmonization of Government of Kenya and development partners. The activity works with the public, private and faith-based sectors to increase access to medication.

Pharmaceutical Policy and Services The activity provides technical assistance in improving governance, policy implementation, pharmaceutical service delivery, medicines quality assurance and the establishment of a pharmaceutical information acquisition and management system.

Strengthened laboratory system and service delivery Health Commodities and Services Management works with key laboratory partners to strengthen policy implementation, leadership and governance. Intended outcomes include improved, efficient laboratory supply chains with a focus on HIV reagents and malaria rapid diagnostic test kits. The activity also supports the expansion of lab networks, and quality assurance/control systems for increased access to quality essential laboratory services at all levels of care.

ACTIVITY IMPACT

“My wife was the first to discover her status. After giving birth, my wife started feeling unwell and when she came to hospital she was admitted. She received some counselling and was tested and the results were positive for HIV. Juma (their son) was also tested and found to be positive”, says Ahmed.

Activity Locations:

National, with direct activities in the counties of Nyanza, Western and Coast regions

Key Partners:

Ministry of Health National Government (Pharmacy and Poisons Board, Pharmaceutical Services Unit, National AIDS and STI Control Program, Reproductive and Maternal Health Services Unit, Malaria Control Unit, Kenya Medical Supplies Authority -KEMSA); Ministry of Health County Government (13 counties in Nyanza - Kisumu, Homa Bay, Nyamira, Migori, Siaya, Kisii; Western - Bungoma, Busia, Kakamega, Vihiga; Coast - Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi)

USAID Contact:

Alice Micheni, Activity Manager
USAID/Kenya, Office of Population & Health
Tel: +254 20 8622000
Email: amicheni@usaid.gov

Health Commodities and Service Management Contact:

John Chimumbwa, Chief of Party
Mobile: +254-770-425-666
Tel: +254 20 2714839/2715191
Fax; +254-2736981/2715208
Email: jchimumbwa@msh.org

Website:

<http://www.msh.org/>

“After learning my wife’s status, it took me a while to get tested but I eventually got the courage to get tested. The test was positive and I was also put on Antiretroviral

treatment,” explained Mzee Ahmed.



Mzee Ahmed and his six-year-old son in Port Rietz Hospital to collect Ahmed’s Antiretroviral drugs

This was six years ago. Mzee Ahmed said that by the time he learned of his wife’s status, there was still a lot of stigma and fear of HIV. Though his wife and son get their medication in Port Rietz hospital, Mzee Ahmed gets his medication from Bomu Medical Centre, in the Mkomani area, which is 3 km from Port Rietz. The good news is that they always get their ARVs whether in Port Rietz or Mkomani.

The Ahmed family is not alone. Patients at the Port Rietz hospital, where Ahmed's family receives treatment, are increasingly finding it easier to get their ARVs on time and stick to their treatment regimens.

Dr. Dominic Miruka Nyamwega, a pharmacist at Port Rietz Hospital, credits the availability of drugs to the use of an Antiretroviral Dispensing Tool (ADT), an easy-to-use electronic pharmacy management software which tracks patient information and monitors the ARVs being prescribed and dispensed.

The ADT tool is being rolled out in more than 320 health facilities throughout Kenya with support from the USAID-funded Health Commodities and Services Management program. The data gathered from the tool allows medical staff to accurately forecast the quantity of medicines that will be needed to effectively provide treatment to patients.

The Health Commodities and Services Management activity, in collaboration with Kenya National AIDS & STI Control Programme is currently developing a software support package to ensure the long-term sustainability and functionality of the tool so that patients like Ahmed and his family have ready access to the ARVs they need and never have to miss a dose.