Discussant: Overview of Quality Partners In Health

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Partners in Health





Implementation gap

What we know works



What is actually implemented

Implementation without quality is still a gap





Adapted from Nature 453, 840-842 (2008)

Quality and outcomes

- All paths lead to the interaction between patient and health care system
 - Process as proximal step to outcomes

BUT

- Without uptake, quality can not occur
- So we need to look at quality and improvement along the continuum of access, uptake and delivery



How do we know where to look and

- intervene
- Before the patient get through the health care "door"
 - Access and utilization

Access Acceptability/satisfaction Systems

Once they cross into care

- What care they are offered
- What care they accept
- What care they receive
- How well it is coordinated



Systems Process Acceptability/satisfaction





Bridging the QI Implementation gap



How do we put into place what we know works to improve quality?



Effective interventions to improve selected areas

- Collaboratives: system and process
- PBF: Processes and systems
- Conditional cash transfer: uptake
- Task shifting: access and process
- Integrated HCW and QI Mentoring: systems and process
- Checklist: process and systems
- New technology (point of care): process



Can we "mandate" quality?

And will that improve outcomes?



What is the role of policy in helping get us across the gap?

- Defining quality
 - Guidelines and standards
- Access
 - Mutuelles
 - Removing User fees
 - Investment in CHWs

Systems and Organization

- Task-shifting
- Financial commitment to adequate supplies and health facilities
- Accreditation (sites, training, providers)
- Mandated QI
- Processes
 - PBF
 - Integrated supervision
 - Mandated integration of proven interventions



Challenges of scale and sustainability

- How do we go from few sites, one district, one country to many?
- How do we use the variability in uptake and impact to inform and improve our implementation as we scale?
- How do we sustain the improvement?
- Can we ever stop measuring?



What are some new(er) challenges in resource constrained settings?



Challenges of success

- Improvements in child survival, HIV care => increased focus on non-communicable chronic diseases
 - How do we break down silo's of vertical efforts to deliver and improve quality more integrated and coordinated care and improvement
 - How do we move from episodic to longitudinal care retaining quality
 - How do we incorporate the 6 areas from IOM



Thank you

