

Snow Inc, IntraHealth, and Ministries of Health, the CommTrack technology has been tested, refined, and scaled through real-world deployments in Tanzania (ILSGateway), Ghana (Early Warning System), and Malawi (cStock), and is being rapidly scaled to other countries in Africa and Asia. In this presentation, we will discuss the design of an intervention, baseline, and evaluation that leveraged an early version of CommTrack, called cStock. As part of JSI's Enhanced Management Approach in Malawi, cStock aims to promote the use of data to inform decision-making and increase the availability of medicines for community health programs. cStock serves as a simple mobile reporting and resupply system that improves communication between frontline health workers (FHWs) and their resupply points. It also provides visibility of real time FHW logistics data at multiple levels of the MOH, including stock out rates, current stock status, and alerts to enable supply chain managers' responsiveness to needs on the ground. cStock is used on FHWs' own basic feature phones to report data monthly via SMS on a toll free line, which then calculates resupply quantities for each FHW and escalates the quantities directly to health centers via SMS to prepare the products. Health centers then alert FHWs when stock is ready for collection. All data is displayed on a web-accessible dashboard with real time reports that show stock levels, reporting rates, and alerts for central and district level managers. CommTrack's cStock deployment was implemented in parallel with a comprehensive research effort to assess the tool's impact on supply chain performance. Results from the 2013 midline assessment demonstrate improvements in the program's product availability, data visibility, use of data, teamwork between districts and supervisors, and transport of goods. During the baseline assessment, 62% of FHWs had the four tracer drugs in stock, contrast to 27% at baseline. FHWs also experienced 14% fewer stockouts of life-saving products than non-intervention groups. cStock is also attributed with increasing general reporting rates, with more than 80% of FHWs reporting logistics data to cStock every month, versus 43% at baseline. The results are a compelling example of how a last-mile supply chain intervention was able to affect and improve the availability of life-saving commodities in Malawi.

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Abstract #: 02ITIS010

Pharmaceutical supply chain management through implementation of a hospital Pharmacy Computerized Inventory Program (PCIP) in Haiti

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Program/Project Purpose: Following the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti, St. Luke Hospital, an 220 bed adult medical hospital, was quickly established to care for the influx of patients with trauma-related injuries, cholera and other maladies. With our Haitian colleagues, we implemented a new Pharmacy Computerized Inventory Program (PCIP) to improve and monitor medication utilization as well as facilitate sustainable patient care activities in this Haitian hospital.

Structure/Method/Design: A needs assessment of PCIP requirements was performed by our institution's pharmacists together with the Haitian facility's medical director. Needs included real-time data assessment of medication usage in three settings (ED/ICU, Inpatient/Ambulatory Care, and Pediatrics); simplicity and sustainability by local hospital personnel; and accommodation for further service expansion. We partnered with a software company tailoring web application tools and developed a PCIP that accomplished all identified needs. A plan for implementation of the PCIP was developed, and included on-site and remote education of end-users. We

then measured the number of transactions in PCIP during a wash-in period and after a predefined period of utilization.

Outcomes & Evaluation: A web-based PCIP was programmed in Haitian Creole and English. It encompassed all phases of the medication use process including drug ordering, filling the drug requests, distribution and dispensing of the medications in multiple settings; inventory of currently shelved medications and graphic charting of 'real-time' medication usage. The Haitian pharmacy and nursing staff were successfully trained by three pharmacists from our institution. Medication utilization improved over the course of the implementation of the PCIP system. Medication transactions increased with a mean transactions per month for the initiation and establishment periods were 219.6 (42.9) and 359.5 (42.9), $p=0.055$, respectively. The mean logins per day for the initiation and establishment periods were 24.3 (0.8) and 31.5 (0.8), $p < 0.0001$, respectively.

Going Forward: An efficient and cost-sensitive PCIP can be effectively implemented within a functional Haitian field hospital that improves drug inventory management and further allows for sustainable medication delivery with a simple, easy to use web-based program.

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Abstract #: 02ITIS011

HealthTrax: A new tool to identify and navigate dirt roads for health outreach work in Southern Zambia

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Program/Project Purpose: Often in rural sub-Saharan Africa, health workers are faced with challenges navigating the dirt roads to rural villages. They cannot reliably access these roads due to flooding or obstructions. Despite the important role of accessible dirt road maps, few tools are available for health workers who face these challenges. In health clinics, health planning often takes place with a rough, hand drawn map.

Structure/Method/Design: The development of this tool relies on data gathered for a longitudinal field trial. The field trial evaluated Riders for Health, a social enterprise organization which maintains health transport fleets in 7 African countries. Eight districts in the Southern Province of Zambia were randomly assigned to either the Riders model or to usual maintenance as provided by the Ministry of Health. The results of this trial have been previously reported. Approximately 1/3 of the fleet (80 motorcycles and 30 vehicles) were given global positioning devices (GPS) to track the roads they used to deliver basic health care between September 2011 and March 2014. The following method was used to identify the roads: 1. All GPS points were overlaid on the "Roads" map in ArcMap. 2. The road segments that coincide with GPS points (within 200m) were selected to be the roads that health worker used. 3. When GPS points did not fall in any road segments, the road were created by digitizing based on ESRI basemap and Google Earth imagery.

Outcomes & Evaluation: 800,000 GPS points were logged to an Astrata database containing the location (longitude and latitude) and date, time, and license plate over the 2.5 year period. Of these 10988 km were roads used by motorcycles and 8194 km were used by vehicles. An online tool called HealthTrax was developed containing the 227 health facilities in the Southern Province of Zambia, roads from these health facilities to rural areas, and separations for roads used by motorcycles and vehicles. In addition, the tool was built to identify a health worker's position in relation to those roads, aiding in navigation. This format can be updated in real-time. The tool was

given to Ministry of Health workers in Zambia for feedback and evaluation.

Going Forward: Health work conducted in rural and outlying communities requires access. Our tool, HealthTrax could improve access, time spent on roads, and ultimately increase productivity of health workers. Multiple health and non-health uses should be explored in the

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Abstract #: 02ITIS012

Effectiveness evaluation of a large-scale community-based program: Lessons from Ethiopia

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Program/Project Purpose: Between July 2013 and January 2014 the Last Ten Kilometers Project (L10K) has scaled-up community-based data for decision-making (CBDDM) strategy within the Government of Ethiopia's Health Extension Program (HEP) to improve maternal and newborn health (MNH) care practices in 115 rural districts (covering 15 million people). The effectiveness evaluation of the CBDDM scale-up was problematic due to lack of appropriate comparison areas. L10K designed and implemented an m-health based MIS to a) monitor the scale-up; and 2) evaluate the effectiveness of CBDDM in the absence of external comparison group.

Structure/Method/Design: L10K supported the district health office staff to train 3,070 kebele leaders, 6,215 health extension workers (HEWs) to organize 75,000+ health development army members (HDAs) to implement CBDDM. The innovation fostered 3,070 kebeles (i.e., communities with about 5,000 population, each) to generate and use data for improving MNH care practices. CBDDM identified underserved population and linked them with HEWs and community leaders to address the barriers in the access to MNH services. Using HEP's supportive supervision strategy to regularly visit kebeles the m-health based MIS gathered MNH service statistics and CBDDM performance data from HEW records. Supportive supervision data were uploaded into the cloud using smart phones which were made available to the managers to monitor CBDDM implementation. The effect of CBDDM on MNH was then determined by examining a dose-response relationship between CBDDM performance scale (that ranged between 0 and 10) and MNH care coverage (obtained from service statistics); communities with greater CBDDM performance were expected to have relatively high MNH coverage.

Outcomes & Evaluation: Data from 2,084 supportive supervisory visits to 804 kebeles between August 2013 and May 2014 indicated that the average CBDDM performance score and MNH coverage was improving over time. Regression analysis of the data demonstrated a dose-response relationship between CBDDM performance and MNH care coverage ($p < 0.05$). For example, communities with one unit higher CBDDM performance score were associated with 3 percentage-points higher coverage of institutional deliveries. The analysis indicated that it is plausible that the scaling-up of CBDDM was effective in improving MNH. CBDDM was accepted by the HEP managers because 1) it was simple to implement; and 2) it was within the policy framework to utilize HDAs to improve HEP service coverage. The acceptability of CBDDM facilitated the scale-up and potentially its sustainability.

Going Forward: There is a potential for incorporating other components HEP (like childhood immunization and family planning) within CBDDM. The analysis also demonstrates that study designs

for effectiveness evaluation of large-scale programs can be incorporated within t

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Abstract #: 02ITIS013

Quality improvement practices decrease adverse event rates in a surgical male circumcision program in Malawi

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Background: As voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) scales up in resource-limited health systems, it is important to assess safety outcomes. The global goal to circumcise 80% of 15-49 year old males requires > 20 million circumcisions to avert > 3 million new HIV infections by 2015. Malawi alone is expected to complete over 2 million procedures. VMMC clinical trials demonstrated low adverse event (AE) rates, ranging 1.5% to 8%, but there is little and varied data on AE rates in VMMC programs. Our evaluation aimed to assess and improve AE rates in a VMMC program in Lilongwe, Malawi.

Methods: A pre/post, group problem-solving quality improvement (QI) project involving retrospective chart audits, case-conference classification of AEs using standard criteria, and provider training was conducted at a VMMC Clinic in Malawi. For each identified AE, the timing, assessment, treatment, and resolution of the event was recorded, then the clinical team classified each event for type and severity. During group discussions, VMMC providers were also queried regarding challenges in provision of care. After baseline evaluation, clinicians and managers set forward a QI plan to improve AE assessment and management. A repeat audit was conducted six months later, and chi-squared tests of proportions were used to evaluate prevalence and severity of AEs before and after the QI intervention.

Findings: During baseline audits, we identified 418 (13.9%) possible AEs in 3,000 charts, including 152 (5.1%) excluded after determination of provider misclassification. Of the remaining 266 AEs, the team concluded 257 (8.6%) were AEs related to the procedure (0.2% mild, 7.3% moderate, 1.1% severe). Case conference review concluded that 89% of AEs were not treated appropriately; the majority of these were inappropriate antibiotics prescriptions for mild symptoms. Training or other structural factors were also found to contribute AE rates and misclassification of cases including: provider prescription practices for management of post-operative inflammation were consistent with national guidelines for urethral discharge; available antibiotics were the STI formulary; and providers reported feeling well-trained in surgical care but insecure in skills related to post-operative assessment and care. After implementation of the program QI plan, a repeat process evaluating 2,540 cases found (4.5%) AEs (2.6% mild, 1.1% moderate, 0.8% severe); total and moderate AEs significantly decreased ($p < 0.001$).

Interpretation: AE rates from this program are within range of clinical trial experiences. However, we detected problems with post-operative assessment, clinical management, and reporting. The QI process allowed for detection of misclassification and structural barriers, though was limited in the temporal pre/post design. Total and reportable AEs were significantly decreased after the QI process, resulting in improved clinical care as well as more accurate program reporting.