IMCI

Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses & Community IMCI

Using the IMCI Framework for Assessing Malaria Programming
3 Components of IMCI

Reduce Mortality

- Improving Health Workers Skills
- Improving Health System
- Improving Household & Community Practices
Component 1: Improving Health Workers’ Skills

- Focuses on the improvement of skills of health care workers to appropriately assess and treat key childhood illnesses.

- For malaria, this includes appropriate case identification (including the clinical overlap of malaria with pneumonia) and referral.
Component 2: Improving Health Systems

- Focuses on the improvement of the management and organization of health care facilities.

- For malaria, this includes the availability of anti-malarial drugs and diagnostic supplies, and record keeping of cases, treatment and referrals.
Component 3: Household & Community Practices

- **Three elements:**
  - Improving partnerships between health facilities and the communities they serve
  - Increasing appropriate and accessible health care and information from community-based providers
  - Integrating the promotion of key family practices that are critical for child health

- Includes building programs on a “multi-sectoral platform.”
HOUSEHOLD & COMMUNITY IMCI
AN IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

ELEMENT 1
Improving partnerships between health facilities and the communities they serve

ELEMENT 2
Increasing appropriate and accessible health care and information from community-based providers

ELEMENT 3
Integrating promotion of key family practices critical for child health & nutrition

MULTI-SECTORAL PLATFORM
Optimizing a multi-sectoral platform to support sustainable child health & nutrition
Multi-Sectoral Approach

The focus of the multi-sectoral platform is similar to addressing primary health care and includes:

- Water and Sanitation
- Education
- Income generation
- Agriculture
Multi-Sectoral Approach

Role # 1

TRANSFERRING IMPORTANT HEALTH MESSAGES TO THE COMMUNITY AND FAMILY
Multi-Sectoral Approach

Examples of this would be...

- Using water and sanitation committees to communicate the importance of vector control
- Using women’s micro-lending or finance groups as venues to discuss malaria prevention and treatment
- Training agricultural extension workers to promote bed net use
- Partnering with schools to train students as community health promoters
Multi-Sectoral Approach

Role # 2

SUPPORTING OTHER SECTORS AS CONTRIBUTORS TO HEALTH I
Multi-Sectoral Approach

How do we know if we are optimizing the Multi-Sectoral Platform?

Are you or your partners working with or through other (non-health) sector groups in ways that improve child health—especially malaria?
Element # 1: Improving partnerships between the facilities and the communities they serve.
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Clinic to community
- Outreach skills
- Interpersonal counseling
- Quality of health services

Community to clinic
- Awareness of health services
- Appropriate and timely use
- Community management
- Health information systems
Element #1: Improving partnerships between the facilities and the communities they serve.

How is this different from ‘Component 1 of IMCI’?

Component 1 of IMCI focuses on an improved methodology for diagnosing the sick child while Element 1 of Community IMCI focuses on establishing ways of partnering between the clinic and the community that will increase demand for services, client satisfaction and share responsibility for ensuring adequacy of services.
Element # 1: Improving partnerships between the facilities and the communities they serve.

How do we know if we are implementing Element 1?

- Have we or our partners formalized community involvement in facility-level management decision-making?
- Have we or our partners assessed and attempted to improve service quality and demand based on client feedback?
- Does substantive information sharing between the community and facility occur that affects how and what kind of services are provided?
Element # 2: Increasing appropriate and accessible health care and information from community-based providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Care</th>
<th>Community Based Providers</th>
<th>Health Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Direct Treatment</td>
<td>• Community Health Workers</td>
<td>• Behavior Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pre-natal care</td>
<td>• Private Providers</td>
<td>Communication (BCC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Immunization</td>
<td>• Traditional Healers</td>
<td>• Counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Health Surveillance</td>
<td>• Traditional Birth</td>
<td>• Awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Referral</td>
<td>Attendants</td>
<td>• Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Shopkeepers/Drug sellers</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Pharmacist</td>
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Element # 2: Increasing appropriate and accessible health care and information from community-based providers

How do we know if we are implementing Element 2?

Are we or our partners working with community providers to help them expand and improve the following services in the community?

- appropriate front-line care
- referral
- surveillance
- health information
Element # 3: Integrating promotion of key family practices for child health and nutrition.

Need for:

A) Physical growth and mental development
B) Disease prevention
C) Appropriate home care
D) Appropriate care seeking
Element # 3: Integrating promotion of key family practices for child health and nutrition.

How do we know if we are implementing Element 3?

Are we or our partners helping families to employ key family practices through effective social and behavioral change strategies?
1. What are you doing within health centers in relation to malaria—this could be through improving facility-based health worker skills or improving drug supply planning or other?

2. What are you doing 1) to formalize community involvement in health facility management or, 2) to assess or attempt to influence service quality for malaria using client feedback or 3) create dialogue between community members and facility workers about malaria services?

3. What are you doing to work with community-based providers—community health workers, drug sellers, TBAs, traditional healers, pharmacists—to improve care, referral or education concerning malaria?

4. What are you doing to help families change their prevention, care seeking or treatment practices related to malaria?

5. What are you doing to work with or through other (non-health) sector partners to improve prevention, care seeking or treatment of malaria?