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Subject: Re: DHS-8-PGSSC-OOP-Template  
Posted by [djumbam](#) on Fri, 15 Mar 2019 18:20:34 GMT  
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I commend the team for their proposal for the inclusion of out-of-pocket expenditure for surgical care in the DHS surveys. As access to surgical care is improved around the globe, it is crucial that the potential financial costs to the patients and their families for surgical care not be forgotten. Some studies have in fact shown that increasing access can lead patients and their families into poverty because they are forced to give up significant portions of their income for surgical care. Inclusion of this indicator in the DHS platform will ensure that we track the effects of improving SDG 3 (Health) against SDG 1 (Poverty). This will allow policy makers to determine effective solutions to scaling up surgical services while preventing patients from being impoverished.

Kudos to the team!!

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