Subject: Re:
DHS-8-PGSSC-Maternal_Mortality-Template_and_POMR-REVISED_Template
Posted by Dr. Ernest Barthélemy on Fri, 15 Mar 2019 21:11:00 GMT
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These two indicators- Peri-Operative Mortality Rate and Mortality following cesarean section, are vitally important measures of high quality surgical care. Moreover, tracking them will empower all nations committed to universal health coverage to measure their progress towards authentically responsive, equitable, and effective healthcare systems. I fully support the inclusion of these indicators in the DHS, and the underlying effort to strengthen a long neglected aspect of global public health in this manner.

PGSSC wrote on Tue, 12 March 2019 18:54Thank you for reviewing our proposal for new indicators within the Demographic and Household Survey (DHS) regarding emergency and essential surgical care. The collection of these indicators is a critical step towards the delivery of safe, affordable, equitable access to surgical services as a component of universal health coverage and we consider the DHS as the best forum to derive these data points.

The questions we propose are a product of the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery (LCoGS), a body of work spanning three years involving 25 commissioners and a diverse group of academic, governmental and civil society collaborators from 110 countries. Of the six indicators proposed by the LCoGS, four were published in the World Development Indicators by the World Bank and all six are included in the World Health Organization's Global Reference List of 100 Core Health Indicators. Nevertheless, there currently are no mechanisms in place to collect the data required for these indicators, creating a critical gap in knowledge for surgical care strengthening.

The new indicators in this proposal span four existing DHS modules. For clarity, they are listed in the table below. Of particular interest are the questions on out-of-pocket expenditure and household expenditure to enable the calculation of financial risk protection for all medical interventions captured by the DHS (both surgical and medical), a core component of Sustainable Development Goal 3.8. The remaining questions were taken from a successful pilot DHS survey in Zambia. In the development of this application, we have been fortunate to count on a number of international partners to provide expert review and the indicators proposed are a culmination of these consensus building discussions. Please refer to Appendix A for a full list of international stakeholders who support this application.

Proposed Indicators:
1. Peri-Operative Mortality Rate
2. Mortality following cesarean section

Data Utility:
1. WHO: 100 Core Health indicators