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Subject: Malaria Service Readiness Index  
Posted by [cbdolan](#) on Thu, 26 Jan 2017 17:23:59 GMT  
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Hello,

In the Malawi SPA report there is reference to a Malaria Service Readiness Index described as Facilities having malaria diagnostic capacity (unexpired malaria rapid diagnostic test (RDT) kits or else a functioning microscope with relevant stains and glass slides; staff member recently trained in either RDT or microscopy, and malaria RDT protocol available in facility; see Table 11.3), malaria treatment guideline, first-line medicine, and personnel recently trained in malaria diagnosis and/or treatment available.

Is this index available in the Malawi SPA data and/or is there a publication that describes the variables used to create the index?

I have pulled the 'Inventory Questionnaire' and see the 'Malaria' specific questions outlined in section 17. What I haven't located is additional information on what exactly was used to create the index and/or if it is already included in the data, maybe similar to the wealth index in the DHS?

Thanks in advance for your time.

Carrie

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Subject: Re: Malaria Service Readiness Index  
Posted by [cbdolan](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2017 15:40:10 GMT  
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In the Tanzania SARA Final Report (July 2013) I found the footnote below for readiness to provide malaria services. The footnote indicates the index is a mean percentage which can be calculated directly from the survey. Therefore, I have gone through the Malawi SPA Questionnaire and found what I think are the corresponding variables and created the index as outlined below for Tanzania, cross-referencing it to the footnote for Malawi. My index of 'Readiness to provide Malaria Services' in Malawi is similar to what is reported in the Full Malawi SPA report, but not exact. If there is documentation/a publication that outlines the specific variables please let me know. I think the specific discrepancy between my index and what the DHS reports is related to how I am calculating evidence of microscope/glass/stains.

Thanks.

The mean percentage of malaria items available in all domains (staff trained in diagnosis and treatment of malaria + guidelines diagnosis and treatment of malaria + staff trained in IPT + guidelines IPT + malaria diagnostic capacity + first-line antimalarial in-stock + paracetamol + IPT drug + ITN) / 9

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Subject: Re: Malaria Service Readiness Index  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Fri, 03 Feb 2017 14:52:50 GMT  
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Dear User,

A response from malaria expert, Cameron Taylor:

Quote:

Dear User:

Below is some information to help you in calculating the indicator which I think will help you get on track to matching the Malawi SPA report.

Questionnaire: Inventory Questionnaire

Indicator: Proportion of all facilities offering malaria diagnosis and/or treatment services

Numerator: Number facilities offering malaria diagnosis and/or treatment services

Interviewer observed RDT being conducted: Q1420(6)=1

OR

Providers in facility diagnose malaria: Q1702=1

OR

Providers in facility prescribe treatment for malaria: Q1710=1

OR

Facility had malaria microscopy capacity

(all components 1,2,and 3)

1. Light microscope used and functioning: Q840(1) B=1 AND Q840(1)C=1

AND

2. Glass slides and covers used: Q840(8)B=1

AND

3. Giemsa Stain, Field Stain, or Acridine Orange stain available: Q847(1)B=1 OR Q847(2)B=1 OR Q847(3)B=1

OR

Facility had RDT capacity

(components 1,2,or 3)

1. Observed RDT kit (malaria section): Q1706=1

OR

2. Observed RDT kit (parasitology section): Q843=1

OR

3. Observed malaria rapid diagnostic testing: Q1420(6)=1

Denominator: Total number of facilities

Total number of facilities interviewed Q006

If you combine this indicator with the measures of training and protocols as shown in the graphic below you should be able to reproduce the estimates from the report.

You can better visualize what is needed using the following graphic

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## File Attachments

1) [Graphic\\_Msg#11710.png](#), downloaded 1073 times

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Subject: Re: Malaria Service Readiness Index  
Posted by [cbdolan](#) on Fri, 03 Feb 2017 16:10:41 GMT  
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Thanks Cameron,

That is helpful and now my counts and subsequent malaria readiness index match. I was missing this first part from the footnote:

Interviewer observed RDT being conducted: Q1420(6)=1

OR

Providers in facility diagnose malaria: Q1702=1

OR

Providers in facility prescribe treatment for malaria: Q1710=1

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