Safety First: Improving Access to Quality Health Services in Kenya

Kenya Patient Safety Impact Evaluation (KePSIE)

Kenya Evidence Forum - June 14, 2016
Using Evidence to Improve Policy and Program Designs
What percentage of health facilities comply with minimum patient safety standards in Kenya as per current regulation?

1. 20%
2. 3%
3. 65%
4. 90%
We do not know...

But based on our baseline data collection in all facilities in Kakamega, Kilifi and Meru (~1,100 HFs)

3% of facilities comply with minimum patient safety standards
What percentage of procedures are performed with new (as opposed to reused) needles and syringes in Kenya?

1. 57%
2. 21%
3. 100%
4. 78%
Based on the same baseline
(~19,000 observations of HCW-patient interactions )

100% of procedures were conducted with new syringes and needles
Two important messages to start...

1. Policy action is required to move facilities above minimum patient safety standards

2. Kenya has done a great job in a key area: new needles and syringes
Can inspections help improve patient safety in Kenya?
Constraints Identified in the Health Inspections System (Windsor, 2013)

**Rules/Standards**
- Discretionary
- Not well known

**Monitoring/information systems**
- Low probability of inspection (4-8%)
- No monitoring system (paper records)
- No capacity to follow-up
- Limited information to HFs

**Enforced Sanctions and rewards**
- No warnings or sanctions, but extreme cases

Weak incentives for HFs to improve patient safety
KePSIE
A country-led initiative developed by consensus

“Windsor Agreement,” 2013

1. **Support regulatory reform** of the inspections system;
2. **Develop instruments** to measure and monitor patient safety
3. **Evaluate the impact** of accountability mechanisms—through different models of health inspections—on patient safety

Building on the long-term Health in Africa Initiative work on regulatory reform

- Standardized Checklist
- Warnings & Sanctions
- Risk-based Scoring system

For **private and public facilities** (only private facilities were inspected before)
2. Measuring Patient Safety – select results (I)

Census in all facilities in 3 study counties (Kakamega, Kilifi, Meru)

1. 97% of facilities need to improve above minimum score

Facility Performance on Patient Safety
(Percentage of Facilities, 3 study counties)

- Minimally Compliant (11 - 40%): 65%
- Partially Compliant (41 - 60%): 32%
- Substantially Compliant (61 - 75%): 3%
- Fully Compliant (>75%): 0%

2. Public facilities score better than private facilities

- 66% of facilities are private but 71% of patients are attended in public facilities
2. Measuring Patient Safety – select results (II)

Census in all facilities in 3 study counties (Kakamega, Kilifi, Meru)

Hand hygiene is only performed in 2% of the cases when it is indicated (cornerstone of IPC)

HCW knowledge and access to supplies do not always help with safety practices (Know-Do Gap)

Hand Hygiene Before Injection or Blood Draw

- Knowledge: 68%
- Supplies: 70%
- Practice: 2%
What is coming next →

3. Evaluation of intensive inspections

1. Training the first cadre of full-time inspectors

2. Electronic Inspections

   Examination Equipment
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3. Web-based Monitoring System with detailed performance of all facilities
Intensive inspections
• 100% probability of inspections
• Enforcement of warnings and sanctions
• Disclosure of facility performance

In context: Kenya is one of the only 5 countries (out of 45 in SSA) that actually conduct inspections in health facilities

To be continued
Thank you!

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