



Results from the Making Every Baby Count Initiative in Four Regional Hospitals in Ghana

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- Achieving the SDGs requires strengthening the quality of care in high volume facilities in LMIC
 - Ghana - MMR 263/100,000; NMR 21/1,000
 - A 4-year (2020-2024) multi-disciplinary intervention undertaken in 4 regional, referral hospitals to reduce mortality by 15%
 - Goal to build clinical, operational and leadership capacity and to establish an intervention package suitable for scale
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Methods

- At baseline, structured observations of clinical care and operational practices were conducted across the continuum from maternal admission to discharge.
- Findings aided development of an evidence-based, context specific intervention package designed to address clinical and system-level deficiencies.
- Clinical modules, aligned with global best practices, encompassed antepartum management of anticipated preterm birth, advanced neonatal resuscitation and transport, operating and recovery room care optimization, postnatal newborn surveillance, and specialized care for neonates admitted to NICU.
- Multilevel quality improvement (QI) training was conducted to empower local teams to identify performance gaps and implement data-driven solutions.
- Post training optimization included supportive supervision and mentoring, augmented with a peer review process to assess implementation.

Results

Created and deployed **10 clinical and operational modules** across four regional hospitals in Ghana:

- Trained 2,867 clinicians (89% of targeted)
- Cumulative knowledge gain: Average pre-test 63%; post-test 84%

Supported **101 quality improvement projects** addressing clinical and operational gaps

Equipment deployment and with biomedical engineering training support and maintenance

- 982** pieces of **major equipment** (e.g. CPAP, radiant warmers)
- 1,392** pieces of **minor equipment** (e.g. dopplers, pulse oximeters)

Spearheaded **15 advanced clinical care forms** for integration into the national EMR system

Developed **peer review system** with **80 indicators**

- Implementation : 44%, 61%, 78% (3 rounds)

Developed the first national **clinical care guidelines on advanced newborn care** approval by the GHS

Mortality was reduced:

- 17% decrease in maternal mortality, 35% reduction in stillbirth, 14% reduction in early newborn death and a 19% decrease in institutional perinatal mortality.

Advanced Maternal Newborn Care Package Components

Mother and Baby Journey



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Summary

- We developed and tested an advanced maternal and newborn care package in Ghana
- Mortality was reduced as verified by external evaluation
- Key learnings:
 - It is critical to address leadership, clinical care and operational gaps along the continuum of care to achieve health system strengthening
 - A comprehensive, multidisciplinary focus is needed for system level change
 - Global health initiatives should focus implementation, not just training, for sustainable improvement

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