PMA COVID-19 Data Collection: Challenges and Lessons

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COVID-19 Impact on PMA data collection:

- Changed the cadence and ordering of our surveys
- Developed remote training procedures to train REs in COVID context
- Developed interviewing protocols for COVID-19
PMA, in its new phase is introducing longitudinal panel surveys (2019-2022)

- Baseline core survey completed in Nigeria, DRC, Burkina Faso, Kenya. Another component of baseline data collection, Client Exit Interviews (CEIs) scheduled to take place after core survey, but not yet completed
- Data collection had not yet started in Uganda, Niger, India, Cote d’Ivoire
- Forced to delay data collection due to COVID-19 restrictions in March

- COVID-19 in Africa: limited survey data available, potential rapid spread of COVID-19, MOH/COVID-19 boards need information- including on women’s ability to receive FP and other health care
- PMA COVID-19 survey: repurpose CEI resources for COVID-19 survey of PMA’s representative samples of women
COVID-19 Survey Approach

**Correspondence with PMA countries**
Our PIs in-country liaised with COVID-19 authorities in their countries, considered logistical feasibility, reviewed proposed topics and questions

**PMA COVID-19 Survey**
- Phone numbers collected for participating women in baseline core survey
- Interviewers conduct COVID-19 interviews via phone, enter information on smart phones via ODK
- Target samples: women providing phone numbers in Kenya (nationally-representative), Burkina Faso (nationally-representative), DRC (Kinshasa), and Nigeria (Kano, Lagos)
- Can link baseline core survey (socioeconomic characteristics, family planning characteristics, etc...) with COVID-19 information
Remote Learning Tools and Approaches

The Platform

Training “Room”

“Info” Group

“Q&A” Group

“My Group” Group

Library

Working Groups

JHPIEGO
Moving to Remote Training

“Info” Group

“My Group” and Q&A group
Recommendations

CREATE FAMILIARITY
- Use familiar platforms
- ToT that includes some participants
- On-call remote tech support

FIND AREAS FOR FLEXIBILITY
- Multiple ways to access materials
- Flexible agenda, but daily deadline
- Childcare during group calls

ACTIVELY CHECK IN
- More quizzes
- Roll-call in WhatsApp
- Zoom check-in calls
- Random REs selected for daily summaries

TEST TECHNOLOGY
MULTIPLE TIMES, MULTIPLE DEVICES, and HAVE BACK-UP OPTIONS
A new mode of data collection—
with many unknowns for a novel
disease with associated myths
and misconceptions

First round was entirely phone-
based

Most recent rounds of PMA (not
COVID-specific, but have COVID-
19 content) have been collected
in the field
Thank you!

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