

Dachi Arikpo, Ekpereonne Esu, Moriam Chibuzor, Martin Meremikwu
Cochrane Nigeria

INTRODUCTION

In Nigeria and other LMICs, significant global health disparities exist despite a growing amount of research evidence. This 'know-do' gap cuts across all aspects of health. Attempts have been made to increase knowledge uptake and ensure that health decisions/policies are evidence-based. Cochrane Nigeria has been involved with the preparation, update and dissemination of Systematic Reviews of effectiveness of health interventions, since 2006. While several high-quality Systematic Reviews have been produced, their use in health policy and practice has been sub-optimal. The success stories have largely been because of PUSH efforts. We hypothesized that, demand-driven evidence syntheses that are contextualized in Research Priority Dialogues (RPD), and supported by locally specific translation-into-action strategies, will improve both policies and service delivery in key areas of sexual and reproductive health (SRH).

OBJECTIVES

To involve stakeholders in SRH in identifying priority questions and needs for research evidence on SRH in Nigeria

METHODS

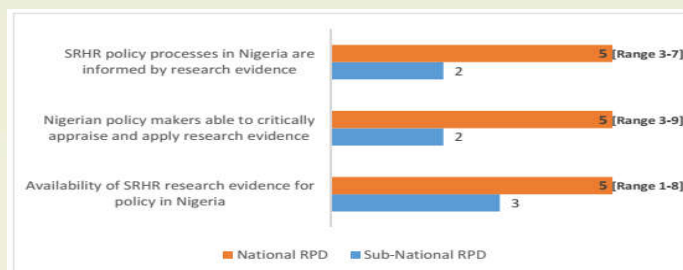
- We identified national policy aims and documents on SRH, studied population data and 10 identified inequities in SRH in Nigeria using the PROGRESS framework.
- Key informant interviews were also conducted with selected SRH stakeholders from Government and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). These enabled the preparation of an evidence brief which documented gaps, themes, priorities, targets, information needs, and the difficulties encountered in the field of the SRH.
- We shared the Evidence Brief and convened Research priority dialogues with stakeholders at subnational (Calabar) and National levels (Abuja) to determine the SRH priorities for Nigeria



- The methodology for both dialogues was a combination of plenary sessions and world café type group discussion.

RESULTS

STAKEHOLDERS PERCEPTION ON THE UPTAKE AND USE OF RESEARCH EVIDENCE IN NIGERIA



Average score for thermometer questionnaire

RANKING OF INEQUITIES IN SRHR BEFORE AND AFTER THE NATIONAL RESEARCH PRIORITY DIALOGUE

Rank	Pre-RPD	Rank	Post-RPD
1 st	Access to EmONC for internally displaced persons	1 st	Access to EmONC for internally displaced persons
1 st	Male involvement in SRHR	2 nd	Access to essential RH supplies for displaced people
3 rd	Gender-based violence	3 rd	Gender-based violence
4 th	Low CPR in rural areas	4 th	Low CPR in rural areas
5 th	Obstetric fistulas more prevalent in poor women	5 th	Socioeconomic disparities in induced abortion
6 th	Access to essential RH supplies for displaced people	6 th	SRH services not tailored to the needs of people with disability
7 th	Females with less education are more likely to be affected by FGM and be married off early	7 th	Male involvement in SRHR
8 th	Socioeconomic disparities in induced abortion	8 th	Obstetric fistulas more prevalent in poor women
9 th	SRH services not tailored to the needs of people with disability	10 th	Females with less education are more likely to be affected by FGM and be married off early
10 th	Andropause and menopause have received little attention	10 th	Andropause and menopause have received little attention

SOME EMERGING THEMES AND PRIORITIZED TOPICS

- Supply chain logistics and delivery strategies for SRH commodities and services in IDP camps
- Mechanisms to promote synergy between donor partners and government in the provision of SRH commodities and services in IDP camps
- What interventions can be targeted at women living in poverty to reduce obstetric fistulae?
- Are youth counsellors better at providing youth-friendly SRH services?
- Does providing SRH education to police officers improve the enforcement of legislation against rape?

CONCLUSIONS

- The utilisation of research evidence in SRHR in Nigeria is low
- The stakeholders engaged are enthusiastic and expressed a desire that such participatory approaches to priority setting be sustained
- Evidence for SRH service provision to internally-displaced populations is needed, given the widespread nature of ongoing internal conflicts in Nigeria.

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