

## Minutes of the Reproductive Health (RH) Sub-Working Group

**Date:** Monday, 10 June 2013

**Place:** UNFPA office in Beirut

### List of participants

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## Agenda

1. Minimum RH package to be offered for Syrian Displaced pregnant women – UNFPA/WHO
2. Update on the CMR training – IMC/ABAAD
3. Update on pregnancy card - IMC
4. National protocol for the treatment of STI and PMTCT national guidelines - NAP
5. AOB

	<b>Issues and action points</b>
	<p><b>Minimum RH package to be offered for Syrian Displaced pregnant women</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• UNFPA presented to the participants the pregnancy care services package related to the MOPH national service delivery guidelines and the MOPH/Italian Cooperation project. Discrepancy between both packages was observed in what relates to the type of tests and number of pre and post natal visits.</li><li>• MSF added that the lab tests required by these guidelines might not be available in Ersal/Hermel region.</li><li>• WHO pointed out the importance of including high risk pregnancies services package to the package and suggested to check the protocol used in Wadi Khaled Makassed PHCC.</li><li>• It was suggested setting a technical meeting with WHO, UNHCR, UNFPA and other partners to discuss the pregnancy care services package.</li></ul> <p><b>Action points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WHO, UNHCR, UNFPA and other field partners: to set a technical meeting to discuss the pregnancy care services package.</li><li>• All partners: to share the pregnancy care services package they are supporting through service delivery points.</li></ul>

### **Updates on the CMR training**

- ABAAD and IMC are planning to launch 3 trainings on CMR addressed to health care providers in the Bekaa, South and Mount Lebanon.
  - The next training will be held in Bekaa on June 13 and 14 and will target 19 health service providers (OB/GYN physicians, nurses and midwives) from 19 different health facilities selected based on the distribution of hubs.
  - All health facilities signed a pledge to receive the treatment kit, offer CMR services and be part of the referral pathway following the training.
  - The curriculum used during the trainings is based on the IRC multimedia tool and the WHO guidelines. During the second day of the training, a briefing on the GBV referral pathway SOPs will be provided to participants.
  - Participants are trained to use the WHO CMR guidelines reporting forms.
  - ABAAD are not planning any CMR TOT nor health facility based trainings.
  - Refresher training on CMR is being planned by ABAAD and UNICEF for the North
- ABAAD are establishing middle-way transition houses for women and girls affected by GBV. A clinical unit might be established within the house and offer CMR services.
- It was suggested by participants and UNHCR to add IMC hotline numbers as a contact number for CMR services on the RH brochure currently being developed by UNFPA.

#### **Action points**

- ABAAD and IMC: to share the name of trained personnel and health facilities after the training for UNFPA to provide the RH kit 3: rape treatment.
- All partners: to assess the possibility of training additional health personnel on CMR and psychosocial support through health facility based trainings.
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### **Updates on pregnancy card**

- IMC developed a pregnancy card to be distributed among displaced Syrians pregnant women on a pilot basis.
- It was suggested by participants to work on a common template that can be re-printed by all actors.

#### **Action points**

- The pregnancy card will also be discussed during the technical meeting set to take place on June 13 with WHO, UNHCR, UNFPA and IMC.

### **National protocol for the treatment of STI and PMTCT national guidelines - NAP**

- The NAP manager briefed participants on the following:
  - The national PMTCT guidelines: The guidelines were endorsed 2 years ago. Ob/Gyn physicians were trained on these guidelines. No follow up and monitoring were conducted so far. Currently, most of the Ob/gyn physicians do not request HIV testing to pregnant women. In case of C-section, the HIV testing is done and if positive the case will be reported to MOPH and the women will be followed by a specialist.
  - The STI program in Lebanon: Currently there are no activities implemented directly related to STI. The STI protocols used at national level are the WHO international ones.
  - Voluntary Counselling Testing (VCT) for HIV: A series of 5 trainings on VCT will be held all over Lebanon during July and August. NAP advised all health actors to encourage health care providers from supported clinics serving Syrians to participate in the trainings. VCT services are offered free of charge to nationals and refugees.
  - HIV: National guidelines on post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for HIV are available. Efforts are being undertaken by the JUNTA for ensuring treatment for people living with AIDS from the Syrian displaced community.

#### **Action points**

- NAP: to share the PMTCT and STI protocols for UNFPA to upload them in the RH WG dropdown.
- All health actors: to coordinate with NAP for recommending health care providers from supported clinics to participate in the VCT training.

### **AOB**

- MSF have conducted a RH assessment in the Bekaa region including 9 focus groups where the request for family planning services by women was strongly noticed.
- MSF has recently started their RH program in the Bekaa region through 3 centres. During the last 3 weeks, 26% of the women visiting the centre asked for family planning services whereas family planning methods are less requested at Makhzoumi centers in Beirut.
- MSF also reported few cases of miscarriages and complications of abortion within their clinics (15 to 20 cases during a 3 weeks period). Reported cases were referred to the UNHCR/IMC supported hospitals.
- Save the children will expand their primary health care services by adding new centres in Akkar and Bireh in the North.

#### **Action points**

- UNFPA: to share the national protocols related to miscarriages and complications of abortion during the next RH WG meeting.