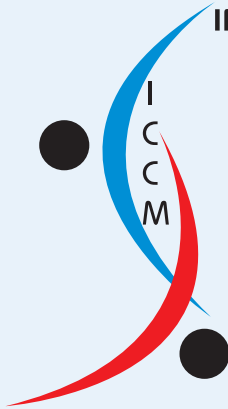


INTEGRATED COMMUNITY CASE MANAGEMENT



Uganda's Strategy for Child Survival, Growth and Development



? Why ICCM

Fourteen out of every one hundred Ugandan children die before their fifth birthday. A majority of them die due to malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea. Many die at home because they can not access life saving treatment in time.

ICCM is part of the Village Health Team (VHT) strategy for promoting health and preventing deaths. ICCM adds treatment to the VHT preventive platform. It complements treatment services provided at the health facility.

ICCM is part of the Child Survival Strategy. Yet bringing it about is not just a technical challenge, but also a political and social one. This booklet gives an over view on ICCM implementation in Uganda and how you can plan for and get involved in ICCM implementation. ICCM stands for Integrated Community Case Management.

? What is ICCM

ICCM involves the health unit and the community. Health workers in public as well as those in the private sector are trained to manage sick children referred from the community. The health worker supervises the VHT regularly to ensure availability of drugs and equipment and to keep the VHT's skills up to date. Health units are organized for good quality child care.

In the community, the community members are involved in both the identification of their needs, and selection of VHTs who will distribute medicine, and encourage mothers to visit the VHTs. The VHT are supplied with pre-packaged clearly labeled medicines to treat malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea. The linkage to the health facility is crucial. Therefore the VHT must be in close touch with the health unit management and sub-county health committees plus the household members. NGOs and CBOs should also have close partnership with the VHTs, public and private health facilities.



ICCM Implementation

- ✓ VHTs have Amoxicillin, ACTs, oral rehydration solution and Zinc
- ✓ VHTs have respiratory timers and drug storage boxes
- ✓ VHTs complete register and reports to Health Facility
- ✓ VHTs mobilize communities to come for treatment
- ✓ VHTs give drugs to all children under five years with fever, cough and diarrhea
- ✓ VHTs give rectal Artesunate to children with severe malaria before referral
- ✓ VHTs reporting adverse drug reactions
- ✓ VHTs visit newborns at home three times within the 1st week of life
- ✓ Health facility staff supervise VHTs regularly
- ✓ Health facilities summarizing checklists and reporting to the district



ICCM Implementation Phases at District Level

Phase I

Introduction and Capacity Building

1 Previsit

The national team on ICCM gives a briefing to the District Health Team (DHT) with an aim to orient the district on the ICCM initiative and its outcome.

2 Training

Training of DHT, Health Sub District (HSD) and Potential District Trainers

Members of the DHT, HSD staff and Potential Trainers go through a 6 day ICCM course.

3 Orientation

This process takes 2 days and involves the extended DHMT & HSD staff and the political leadership (district council). The output is a district decision to embrace ICCM and to commit resources.



Phase II

Planning and Health System's preparation

1 Planning

Establishment of District ICCM Implementation and Coverage plan as part of the district plan. This plan specifies the steps to introduce ICCM fully and sequentially into the Sub-counties/HSD and should be endorsed by the DHMT and the political leadership. Resources quantified and identified.

2 Strengthening referral system

Introduction referral letter, Triage process emergency treatment, potential monitoring and ICCM in-patient guidelines in referral facilities. Review staff roster to ensure 24 hour coverage. Ensure availability of basic laboratory during support.

3 Strengthening the Health System for ICCM

Ensure availability of ICCM relevant drugs and equipment
Strengthen the supervision system

4 Visits to assess progress and readiness

MOH helps the district assess progress in strengthening the health systems for ICCM. Scheduling of courses and selection of VHTs.

Phase III

Supervision and Consolidation

1 Preparation for ICCM Training

Training of ICCM Trainers on 5 day TOT course, preparation of training site in collaboration with neighboring health facilities.

2 Integration of ICCM into District Supervision

Tools and procedures for integrated supervision to be adapted for ICCM, practical training of (Sub) District supervisors on ICCM supervision skills.

3 Training and Follow-up of VHTs

ICCM training courses held according to the district plan and according to identified quality criteria. MOH assists with initial courses and follow-ups. Health Unit reorganization for ICCM takes place during follow-up and supervision.

4 Support and planning visits to districts in expansion Phase

These 6-monthly visits by MOH will be for implementation, supervision and planning. Districts to plan for resupply of ICCM respiratory timers, job aids and other consumables.

Phase IV

Improving Care Seeking Practices by VHTs

When the VHTs are adequately equipped and supplied to provide quality care to households communities are expected to support and use the program. The VHTs will do health promotion and sensitize communities on ICCM.



Contact the Health Education Promotion Unit at Ministry of Health for further details on the VHT strategy.

? What can **YOU** do

As a politician

- Advocate for, and ensure funding for ICCM activities at all levels.
- Talk to your constituents about children's health and appropriate health care practices.

As MOH Staff

- Make sure that your program uses the ICCM guidelines for both curative and preventive activities.
- Include ICCM in your strategic and operational planning

As District Staff

- Ask to be trained in ICCM.
- Arrange work at the health facilities facility to allow referred patients to be managed appropriately.

As a Health Worker

- Participate in training VHTs for ICCM.
- Manage referred patients using IMCI guidelines.
- Supervise your VHTs and report to the district.
- Properly and accurately quantify and order ICCM medicines and timely distribute to them to VHTs.

As a Community Leader, member and a mother

- Participate in community planning for ICCM activities.
- Select and motivate VHTs for ICCM
- Monitor the distribution of medicines for ICCM.
- Seek advice on child care from your ICCM VHT EARLY.
- Follow VHT's advice on treatment, go to the health facility when referred.

? Contact for **ICCM**

For more information and assistance contact:

Ministry of Health, Community Health Department

P.O.Box 7272, Kampala. Tel: 041 340874/231569 (Ext. 118)

Fax: 041 231584

Or your District Health Officer

Or your nearest Health Worker