Call to Action on improving access to and appropriate use of amoxicillin and gentamicin for newborn and child health

Child Health Task Force commodities sub-group – January 25, 2023
Agenda

I. Background

II. Call to Action paper: purpose and contents

III. Next steps:
   • Request for feedback
   • Dissemination
   • Discussion
Background: The global challenge

- There are over 700,000 under 5 deaths each year from pneumonia and other treatable respiratory infections, with 90% in 40 LMICs
- Global changes in treatment of newborn and child health conditions have still not been widely adopted
- 54 countries need accelerated action to meet the SDG target for under-five mortality
- Access to and appropriate use of amoxicillin and gentamicin for newborn and child health through primary health care remains a challenge
Background: Addressing key barriers and bottlenecks

What is needed to further the advances already made and increase access to and appropriate use of pediatric amoxicillin and gentamicin?

Prioritized bottlenecks:

- **Financing**: Inadequate financing of pediatric amoxicillin and gentamicin formulations
- **Quantification**: Inaccurate quantification at all levels
- **Quality**: Quality of child health products not guaranteed
- **Appropriate Use**: Inappropriate use of medicines for treatment of pneumonia and PSBI by providers and caregivers
Improving uptake of amoxicillin and gentamicin

Evidence and solution building process to review experience and evidence related to selected bottlenecks

Consultative process:
• Review of recent literature
• Call for evidence, experience, and data
• Surveys to priority countries
• Consultative meetings
  • Convene country stakeholders, donors, and implementing partners
  • Share evidence on prioritized bottlenecks in uptake of medicines for newborn and child health
  • Discuss root causes
  • Develop consensus on actionable, prioritized solutions
• Call-to-action paper
  • with defined roles for both countries and global partners

Series of 3 consultative meetings with the Newborn and Child Health Commodities subgroup of the CHTF:

Consultative Meeting #1: Quantification & Financing
Consultative Meeting #2: Quality
Consultative Meeting #3: Appropriate Use

May 2022

• Included technical experts from:
  — Government agencies
  — Global health institutions
  — NGOs
  — Private sector
  — Academic institutions

• Experts reviewed current evidence, identified root causes, and agreed on actionable solutions

Recordings and presentations can be found here:
https://www.childhealthtaskforce.org/events/2022/05/improving-uptake-amoxicillin-and-gentamicin-three-part-consultation
Call to Action paper: Purpose

- Re-ignite action to improve uptake of amoxicillin and gentamicin for children and newborns (also serve as proxy for other essential medicines in PHC)
- Sets out the recommended solutions
  - not necessarily new and innovative but not currently being implemented
  - Start with low hanging fruit that are feasible in the short term
- Describes the critical roles of country stakeholders, donors, implementing partners, and civil society organizations in driving purposeful action and saving children's lives
- Use to bring all country stakeholders together around a common goal and drive action
- Stresses the importance of strong heath systems
**Key action points:** Strengthening quantification

- Coordinate forecasting and supply planning
- Improve timeliness and accuracy of data collected at all levels of the health supply
- Build skills for data organization, routine review and analysis of consumption data and use established tools to conduct quantifications
Key action points: Increasing financing

- Build capacity to manage available domestic resources
- Improve transparency of financial commitments for procurement of medicines and build accountability
- Include community-level requirements for amoxicillin in grant applications to the Global Fund
Key action points: Improving quality assurance

- Strengthen national regulatory agencies to support GMP inspections, streamline registration, and post market surveillance
- Advance regulatory convergence and harmonization
- Strengthen coordination mechanisms to eliminate constraints to procurement of quality products
- Ensure that procurers accurately specify quality requirements in tender documents and purchase only quality-assured products
- Raise public awareness of substandard and falsified products
- Use long-term procurement agreements and tax and tariff waivers to incentivize local manufacture
- Ensure uninterrupted availability of quality assured gentamicin (plus 1 ml syringes) and amoxicillin
Key action points: Enabling appropriate use

Align national policies and guidelines with global recommendations and disseminate through range of media.

Provide electronic decision-making tools to support providers.

Ensure effective supervision, mentoring, and coaching.

Set standards and indicators to monitor availability and use practices of providers and caregivers.

Design and implement evidence-based, multifaceted interventions.

Research linkages between rational use of medicines and payment mechanisms and insurance schemes.
Doing your part: Role of stakeholders

**NATIONAL REGULATORY SYSTEM**
Set product quality standards, facilitate and monitor compliance in the health supply chain

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**
Set national health policy, develop strategic plans, deliver health services, drive implementation of all interventions, and ensure accountability

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE**
Establish funding levels, release the necessary funds and ensure efficient utilization of resources

**IMPROVED ACCESS TO AND APPROPRIATE USE OF QUALITY-ASSURED AMOXICILLIN AND GENTAMICIN**

**DONORS**
Partner with national governments to invest in research and high-impact strategies that strengthen needed capacities and drive recommended actions

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS**
Provide technical support and capacity strengthening to enable implementation of recommended actions and further research where needed

**CIVIL SOCIETY**
Advocate, monitor, and hold governments, donors, and implementing partners accountable for taking recommended actions
CHILD SURVIVAL ACTION

A renewed call to action to end preventable child deaths

• Full slides here: bit.ly/CSAdeck
What brings us together?

54 countries need accelerated action to meet the SDG target for under-five mortality.

Countries colored in red are “off-track” for achieving the 2030 SDG Target for under-five mortality (2030 SDG target = 25 deaths per 1,000 live births). The colors represent the difference between the average annual rate of reduction in under-five mortality required to achieve the 2030 target and the historical rate of reduction (2010-2020). The darker the red, the greater the gap between the required rate and the historic rate. Countries in green are all considered “on-track”.
Next steps:

Request for feedback:
Please share any feedback on the draft Call to Action paper by Friday, February 3, 2023.

Email feedback to: childhealthtaskforce@jsi.com

Proposed dissemination strategies for the paper

- Briefing sessions with UNICEF and USAID regional and country offices
- Country discussions and planning sessions with all stakeholders, e.g., through TWG
- Link to Child Survival Action
- Consider address as part of country iCCM scale up plans
- Presentation at international and regional conferences
Discussion on the call-to-action paper:

- Are the actions feasible?
- Do you foresee any challenges?
- Additional suggestions for dissemination
- Questions
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