

Meeting Minutes
Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR)
Technical Working Group Meeting

Venue: Family Health Division (FHD) Meeting Hall

Date: June 28, 2016

Time: 11:30 AM - 01:00 PM

Chair: Dr. RP Bichha, Director, FHD

Guest: Dr G D Thakur, Chief, PHAMED, Ministry of Health (MoH)

Participants:

MoH, FHD, CHD, MD, NHSSP, One Heart, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, USAID, PESON, Paropakar Maternity and Women's Hospital, GIZ, VSO

Objectives:

1. To share the progress against the activities planned for implementing MPDSR at national to district level in FY 2072/73
2. To discuss on activities on MPDSR planned for coming year FY2073/74 and next 5 years
3. To share the challenges while implementing MPDSR

Proceedings:

The meeting started with introduction of the participants followed by presentation from Dr. Sharad Sharma, Senior Demographer, FHD which included the following contents:

1. Brief overview and concept of MPDSR
2. Implementation status of MPDSR including district coverage, tools developed, trainings conducted, manuals developed, status of formation of MPDSR Committees and Verbal Autopsy Teams at the MPDSR districts
3. Activities planned for coming year
4. Challenges for implementing MPDSR

Dr. GD Thakur, Chief, PHAMED, Ministry of Health shared that monitoring and supervision is an essential part to make this program functional. As Nepal has targets to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal for Maternal Mortality Ratio and committed at international platforms to implement MPDSR, this program is highly prioritized by the MoH and assured that he, being at the policy making level, has been and will always work as a facilitator for successful implementation of MPDSR. He also suggested FHD to coordinate with External Development Partners for implementation and expansion of MPDSR across the country. He stressed that as per the MoH directives, the MPDSR being implemented now in 5 districts and 44 hospitals is not a Pilot, it's a programme that needs to be scaled up at the national level.

Dr. RP Bichha stated that FHD has highly prioritized MPDSR and needs support from the MoH and the partners for successful implementation and expansion of this program.

The issues discussed and recommended for further action are:

1. Identify a dedicated team at each district; build their capacity for successful implementation of MPDSR.
2. Form a core team at FHD for implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of national level activities.
3. Make a provision of reorienting the current MPDR implementing hospitals on the MPDSR process through a technical agency as it is difficult and not practical for FHD to do this alone.
4. Train the medical team at hospitals on Cause of death assignment.
5. Orient the medical recorders in the MPDSR implementing hospitals on ICD Coding.
6. With support from partners, expand the MPDSR implementing districts from 6 to 10 next year. Look for national representation while expanding the districts.

Share the recommendations from this meeting at the National MPDSR committee meeting on 29 June 2016.