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# Strengthening the pneumonia response in Ethiopia and Chad

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3 November 2022

2022 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene

Symposium: 106

# Background: Ethiopia

- Pneumonia accounts for 17 percent of all deaths of children under five
- Ministry of Health (MoH) adapted the integrated management of newborn and childhood illnesses (IMNCI) training package
- Implemented integrated community case management (iCCM) for pneumonia, diarrhoea and malaria to bring treatment for sick children closer to the community
- 2020 → Malaria Consortium, in partnership with MoH, supported the development of an IMNCI action plan.



# Background: Chad

- Pneumonia has a high mortality rate (23.7 percent) among children under five
- Chad's national health strategy for community-based care → includes iCCM
- Since 2005 → IMNCI implemented and protocol developed for management of most common recurrent childhood illnesses
- Malaria Consortium and Ministry of Public Health and National Solidarity, Chad → pneumonia control strategy developed.



## Aim

To assess the gaps in prevention, diagnosis and treatment of childhood illnesses, with a special focus on pneumonia, and generate evidence that will support improvement of pneumonia case management through the development of the Pneumonia Control Strategy(PCS) in Chad and the IMNCI action plan in Ethiopia.

## Objectives

- To assess the challenges facing the IMNCI platform in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia
- To collate information on specific indicators that can be used to inform the PCS
- To assess existing opportunities that can be leveraged to improve pneumonia case management
- To assess the contribution of stakeholders for improving pneumonia case management.

# Study design

## Qualitative

Desk review

In-depth interviews (IDIs)

Focus group discussions  
(FGDs)

## Quantitative

Routine data collection → relevant quality  
of care indicators

# Methods

## Study participants

- Purposively selected:
  - government health officials
  - relevant partners and stakeholders.

## Data collection and tools:

- desk-based literature review
- information sheets and consent forms
- Topic guides for FGD and IDIs
  - Held with non-governmental and governmental organisations.

# Strengths and limitations (Ethiopia)

## Strengths

- Holistic approach
- Moving tasks: facilities → nearest communities
- Implementing community-based health insurance
- Increased number and diversity of human resources
- Introduction of new vaccines
- Strong national child survival coordination technical working group
- Revision of IMNCI training protocols
- Development of a national newborn and child health strategy.

## Weaknesses/challenges

### Supply side:

- shortages
- poor service quality
- closure of health posts
- delayed referrals
- declining budget support
- inadequate community mobilisation and ownership.

### Demand side:

- low utilisation of child health services
- low child health awareness
- delayed health-seeking behaviours
- low treatment adherence.

# Strengths and limitations (Chad)

## Strengths:

- MoH prioritisation of maternal and child health
- financial and technical support from partners
- existence of:
  - health structures
  - child health service
  - dynamic teams
  - healthcare providers → IMNCI trained

## Weaknesses/challenges:

- lack of funding
- inadequate health service offer
- insufficient number of healthcare providers
- low capacity strengthening
- insufficient health equipment
- lack of:
  - amoxicillin
  - pneumonia vaccine
  - pneumonia signs
  - indoor air pollution danger awareness
  - immunisation coverage
  - follow-up
- precarious nutritional situation.



# Conclusions

**Critical  
supply  
shortages**

**1**

**Inadequate**

- Service quality
- capacity strengthening of healthcare providers

**2**

**Health-seeking  
behaviour:**

- delayed
- low service utilisation
- low level of awareness
- poor adherence

**3**

**Insufficient,  
task-oriented  
supportive  
system**

**4**

# Next steps

## Ethiopia

- December 2022 → Final IMNCI action plan presented to Federal MoH and national stakeholders
- Lives Saved Tool project being finalised in Chad & Ethiopia.

## Chad

- December 2022 → Final Pneumonia Control Strategy presented to MoH and national stakeholders
- Introduction of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

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# Thank you

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