



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



BASICS HEALTHY TIMING AND SPACING OF PREGNANCY TOOLKIT

TOOLKIT USER GUIDE



U.S. Agency for International Development
Bureau for Global Health
Office of Health, Infectious
Diseases and Nutrition
Ronald Reagan Building
1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20523
Tel: (202) 712-0000
Email: globalhealth@phnip.com
www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health

BASICS
4245 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 850
Arlington, VA 22203
Tel: (703) 312-6800
Fax: (703) 312-6900
Email: basics@basics.org
www.basics.org

Support for this publication was provided by the USAID Bureau for Global Health

BASICS (Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival) is a global project to assist developing countries in reducing infant and child mortality through the implementation of proven health interventions. BASICS is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (contract no. GHA-I-00-04-00002-00) and implemented by the Partnership for Child Health Care, Inc., comprised of the Academy for Educational Development, John Snow, Inc., and Management Sciences for Health. Subcontractors include the Manoff Group, Inc., the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health, and Save the Children Federation, Inc.



User Guide for Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancy Job Aids and Tools

Table of Contents

Tool Kit User Guide
Advocacy Presentations on HTSP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is HTSP? ▪ Support For Advocacy And Capacity Building In Healthy Timing And Spacing Of Pregnancy ▪ Incorporation of Healthy Pregnancy Spacing into Newborn, Infant and Child Health Program ▪ Operationalization through Integration
Assessment tools in integrating HTSP into child health programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facility Assessment Guide ▪ Exit Interview for Contraceptive Users ▪ Interview with Family Planning Service Providers ▪ Interview with Caretakers ▪ Interview with Health Care Providers ▪ Interview with Men Visiting Health Facilities ▪ Interview with Religious Leaders and Community Workers
Job Aid and Tools in HTSP Integration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opportunities for the Integration of HTSP into MCH Programs ▪ Messages for use at Immunization sites ▪ Methodological Guide for Effective Integration of Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancy into Newborn and Child Health Activities
Supportive Supervision Checklist for HTSP and Family Planning
Monitoring and Evaluation of HTSP integration in child health program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Core Indicators ▪ Framework for Monitoring and Evaluation ▪ Pre-test of Health Worker Knowledge ▪ Central Level and Partner Interview Guide ▪ HTSP Client Exit Interview ▪ Health Facility Interview Guide ▪ USAID Mission Interview Guide
Training Manual for integration of HTSP into MCH programs

User Guide for Job Aids and Tools in Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancy

Why the job aid and tools were developed

The job aid and tools were developed to promote USAID/BASICS strategy to utilize maternal and child health entry points to care to introduce messages around healthy timing and spacing and or limiting pregnancies to mothers, couples and care givers that access child health services. Traditionally, messages about birth spacing and family planning are provided solely at family planning clinics with women as the primary target. However, this practice results in several missed opportunities to utilize other MCH platform to provide birth spacing and family planning information to clients in programs like antenatal care, post natal care, sick and well baby clinics, nutrition, targeting not just women but also men, couples, and adolescents. The overall goal is that multiple entry points to care will be utilized to provide women, men and couples with information to achieve their fertility intentions, including spacing their pregnancies, improve access and promote retention in family planning services. As HTSP does not stand alone, it requires a functional primary health care system to be effective.

Purpose

The healthy timing and spacing of pregnancy integration tool kit is designed to improve the capacity and skills of health workers to integrate HTSP into their routine child health programs, provide specific HTSP messages to women, men and couples assessing MCH services and improve quality of care for family planning services at the health facility and community levels of care. It will also enhance their capacity to monitor and evaluate such services in order to balance demand created for HTSP with quality of FP services. These job aid and tool kit do not replace or substitute other formal trainings in delivery of family planning services.

Target Audience

The job aid and tools is targeted to health care workers who provide care to both sick and well infants and children at health facilities and in communities including doctors, nurses, midwives, clinical officers, family planning providers, immunization officers, community health workers and other providing maternal and child health services at facilities and within the communities. The advocacy tools is effectively directed to policy makers, key personnel and program planners at Ministries of Health, EPI, MCH, IMCI, HIV, PMTCT, ANC, child health partners, donors, bilateral and multilateral agencies, local NGOs (including CBOs and FBOs), civil society, men and women support groups and other stakeholders in maternal and child health.

Where to use the job aid and tools?

The job aid and tools are recommended for use at all service points providing care to mothers and their infants and children at health facilities and in the communities. This includes but not limited to VCT, ANC, PMTCT, HIV-TB clinics, MCH, IMCI clinics, community IMCI programs, pediatric in-patient, pediatric ward admissions, immunization sites, nutrition clinics, home based care programs, orphans and vulnerable children programs, and other mother-child

encounter points at health facilities and communities. This will be providing information on the benefits of healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies at multiple sites other than the regular FP clinics.

Organization and content of job aid and tools

The job aid and tools are organized by content areas for easy access to the necessary information regarding integration of HTSP into child health programs. The sections include advocacy presentation on HTSP; assessment tools for the integration of HTSP within MCH programs, job aids to facilitate the integration process, supportive supervision tool, monitoring and evaluation resources and training manual to assist facilities integrate HTSP within existing functional primary health care settings.

The content and how to use each tool are described briefly under each section as follows:

1. Advocacy Presentations on Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancy

This document presents, HTSP and its health, economic and other benefits to the mother, child, men, the community and the nation at large, using both country specific data from DHS, USAID sponsored and other research findings to show evidence of longer birth spacing intervals to mothers and children.

2. Missed Opportunity for HTSP integration within MCH programs.

This chart provides a framework in identifying missed opportunities of informing mothers and couples on the key messages on birth spacing. It identifies neglected target audience (including men, adolescents, grand mothers, policy makers), neglected sites and programs (immunization clinics, IMCI, MCH programs ANC, PNC, VCT, PMTCT/ART, nutrition, pediatric in-patient, OVC etc) and integration opportunities in MCH policy and guidelines, training and capacity building for HCWs, job aids and tools, supervision, monitoring and evaluating programs. These will both create demand for HTSP/FP services as well as improve quality of care to meet the demand.

3. Assessment tools in integrating HTSP into child health programs

This document contains questionnaire guides to assess the functionality of the FP and MCH services for the integration of HTSP. Includes questionnaires from head of units of facilities, FO providers, client exit interviews, interview guide for women attending MCH services, men and the religious groups at the community level.

4. Job Aid and Tools in HTSP integration

a. Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancy messages for use at Immunization sites

This job aid assist immunization officers to provide the key messages on healthy timing and spacing of pregnancy to mothers and caregivers as they wait to get their children immunized at the health facilities or during community outreaches. The messages also include where to obtain more information and access FP services.

b. Methodological guide for the integration of HTSP at entry points to care

This chart provides guidance on ways to provide information and referral for HTSP services at maternal and child entry points to care. This includes but not limited to all visits for antenatal care, PMTCT, post natal, IMCI at facility and community, immunization, growth monitoring and nutrition clinics. The guide also provides steps in assessment of the needs of the baby, assessing the HTSP and FP knowledge of client, providing information based on knowledge gap and the key messages on HTSP as well as suggestion to providers at each entry point to address concerns of mothers and refer appropriately for required services in HTSP/FP.

c. Comprehensive Referral tool for Maternal and Child Health

This tool provides guidance on referral and linkages between health facility and community resources in support of HTSP services. It is designed for use at peripheral health centers and community level services.

5. Supportive Supervision and Mentorship tool

This tool provides a check list to supervise and improve quality of HTSP counseling and services including basics information of HTSP at facility, health services organization for HTSP, family planning practices, supplies, logistics, staff capacity, infection prevention, waste management for FP, monitoring, reporting and supervision for HTSP services at the health facilities. Scores are also provided for each section to allow for objective assessment of improvement or otherwise following subsequent supervisions.

6. Monitoring and evaluation of HTSP integration at country level

This document provides recommended indicators for monitoring implantation of HTSP integrated within MCH programs. It also provides interview guide for the evaluation of result of integration of HTSP with child health programs both at facility and community levels of care.

7. Training Manual on HTSP integration within child health programs.

This training provides guidance on the methodology of integration of HTSP within existing MCH and FP services, training health care providers on HTSP messages and referral for appropriate services and how to monitor and report on such services. This manual is not to be used alone. It should complement other training in FP services for health care providers.

How to obtain more copies

To obtain copies of the job aids and tools described above, please visit BASICS web site at www.basics.org or contact William Newbrander, Technical Director, at wnewbrander@basics.org for more information.