



A GUIDE TO CONDUCTING OUTREACHES FOR FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

Post Pregnancy Family Planning

INTRODUCTION:

Access to maternal and child health services is crucial to improving the health of women and children. Poor access to family planning (FP) services are mostly due to inadequate information, high cost of services and distance to health facilities. In Lagos state, the private sector which provides services for majority of the population has a critical role to play in improving access to quality health services and the lives of the women and children.

Outreaches are an avenue to provide FP information, counselling and method uptake to members of the community at a minimal or affordable cost. It also involves reaching many underserved (i.e. the poor, those living in remote areas and urban slums, people with little education and other vulnerable groups) with comprehensive family planning services.

TYPES OF OUTREACHES:

Clinic Outreaches - The clients are mobilized from the community and referred to the hospitals for family planning services

Community Outreaches - The clients are mobilized from the community and referred to a selected place within the community for family planning services

Family Planning Outreaches can be conducted alone or integrated with other health services within the facilities

BENEFITS OF OUTREACHES

Extends the reach of FP information and services to the underserved in the community

Improves the proficiency of trained facility provider by providing more opportunities to develop skills/competency

Reduces the expiration/wastage of available FP commodities

Improves the reputation of the health facilities within the community

Increases FP uptake and facility clientele

CRITERIA FOR CONDUCTING OUTREACHES

- Availability of a trained FP Provider
- Willingness to reduce the cost of FP services
- No consultation fee for provision of FP services
- Availability of the 5 categories of FP methods (male and female condoms, progestin-only pills, combined pills, injectables, implants and Intra uterine devices)
- Conducive environment for FP services

STEPS FOR CONDUCTING OUTREACHES

