Theme 4: Quality Assurance & Control of Malaria Diagnostics

Fidelis Mgohamwende

NMCP TANZANIA

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Introduction

- Malaria RDT service is on place in all public health facilities countrywide (about 6000 health facilities)

- Roll out trainings of malaria RDT performance are ongoing to introduce the service in the formal Private health facilities country wide

- Malaria RDT performance is carried out by laboratory personnel and non Laboratory personnel
Tanzania: Malaria RDT QA/QC Program

National mRDT QA/QC
(Lot testing, Batch Releasing Test)

DISTRICT LEVEL mRDT QA/QC

Scaling-up mRDT Testing Accuracy (mRDT TA QC)

?? Device Validation (Operation research PCWs)
mRDT Testing accuracy

Testing deficiency

Reading zone colouration

Blood splatter

Quality testing

POSITIVE RESULTS

NEGATIVE RESULTS

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What are we scaling up

- Quality monitors of the 5 core testing deficiencies

- Blood volume/splatter
- Buffer volume
- Invalid tests
- Reading time
- Labelling
Lessons learnt

- Malaria RDT TA/QC scale up is feasible easily integrated into the existing district supervision system

- Retained used devices provide an avenue for assessing the performance of the tester without direct observation & can be used to classify providers performance

- Malaria RDT TA/QC is being implemented in six regions in the formal private health facilities (PSI-UNTAID) and eight regions in the public health facilities (USAID-PMI) and the rollout is on-going
Challenges

- mRDT training focuses on 5 core testing deficiencies to improve testing quality by eliminating human error, there is no mechanism to monitor the validity of the devices at the POC

- Policy and regulations do not support the mRDT testing in drug outlets and community level
Looking ahead

- Rollout the malaria RDT TAQC in both public and private health facilities country wide

- Integrate the malaria RDT TAQC component in all future malaria RDT trainings; starting with on-going trainings in formal Private sector

- Collaborate with FIND in PSI-UNTAID project to explore approaches (Private & Public) towards monitoring of validity of mRDT devices at the Point of care (Use of PCWs)

- Accelerate the on going consultative meetings with relevant authorities to create conducive environment to allow drug outlets to perform RDT testing

Fidelis Mgohamwende
Thank you
AHSANTE SANA