



02 MCH-HB Contents
Existing Cards
Merged into MCH
Handbook

03 Pilot Implementation
Findings of Process
Evaluation

04 Scale-up Plan
Stakeholders and
Partners

MCH HANDBOOK AFGHANISTAN

August
2018

Afghanistan's Mother and Child Health Handbook Brochure, Issue No. 1, August 14, 2018

An Effort to Increase MCH Service Utilization

MCH handbook is a new initiative in Afghanistan to improve the record keeping and provision of maternal and child health services in Afghanistan.

Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) in partnership with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), UNICEF, WHO, and other partners have been working together to develop Afghanistan's first ever integrated home based hand held personal maternal and child health record and health promotion tool. A prototype, the Afghanistan MCH Handbook (MCH-HB) has recently been developed. It is largely pictorial with illustrated health promotion

messages and space for recording key services such as antenatal care, postnatal care, birth registration, immunization and child growth monitoring.

The MCH Handbook contains maternal health (before pregnancy, Childbirth and post-partum) and child health records (from newborn until the child age of 5 years old) and contains information on how to maintain health care for mother and child.

Maternal and child mortality is a

big burden on families, communities and at country level. It affects the wellbeing of coming generation and the country as whole.



We hope that by introducing this MCH handbook, pregnant mothers and their children seek preventive and curative services that are available around the country. Every pregnant mother receives one MCH Handbook and if a mother had a multiple pregnancy, she will receive the number of MCH Handbooks according to the numbers of newborns she delivered.

21,500 Number of MCH Handbook distributed in 2 districts

\$0.3 Printing cost of one MCH Handbook

99.5% Retention rate of MCH Handbook among families

Contents

Health Records: 30%

Health Education: 70%

Illustrations: 50%

Texts: 50%



- 1 ANC
- 2 Delivery Care
- 3 PNC
- 4 Family Planning
- 5 Newborn Care
- 6 IMCI
- 7 Vaccination
- 8 Nutrition
- 9 Child Growth Monitoring
- 10 Early Childhood Development

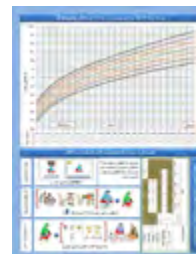
Existing Cards Merged into MCH Handbook



ANC Card



Family Planning



Growth Monitoring Cards for Boys and Girls



Child Vaccination Card



Birth Registration Card



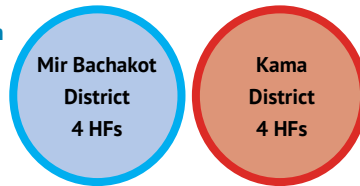
TT2 Vaccination Card

Pilot Implementation

The pilot project of MCH Handbook has been officially launched in August 2017 and continued until June 2018 in two districts of Afghanistan (Mir bacha Kot in Kabul and Kama in Nangarhar). Main partners for supporting this initiative are JICA, UNICEF and WHO. A total of 8 health facilities, 4 health facilities in each district started pilot implementation.

Point of distribution for MCH handbook in these health facilities were:

- Midwife
- Nutrition
- Vaccinator



Four round of training was conducted during the implementation phase

- 1 Training of Trainers (ToT)
- 1 Initial training
- 1 Refresher training
- 1 Training and orientation to tertiary hospitals



Regular monitoring was key to ensure smooth implementation of MCH handbook pilot project. During the implementation phase, 12 monitoring visits were conducted which included:

- 5 joint monitoring visits
- 7 individual monitoring visits



Two review workshops were also conducted to get feedback from field staff on challenges during pilot implementation and receive suggestion on further improvements.

Process Evaluation of pilot project implementation was also designed and conducted.

25,500
Copies Printed

21,500
Copies Distributed

4
Training Sessions Conducted

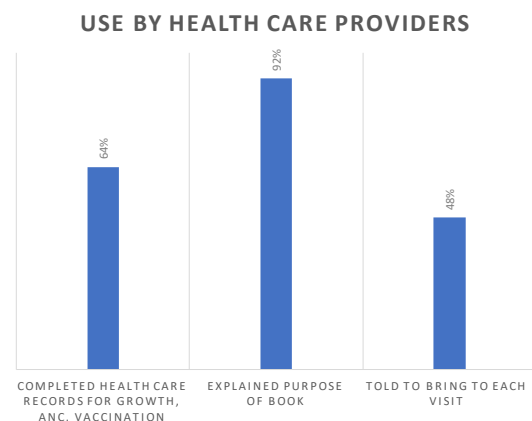
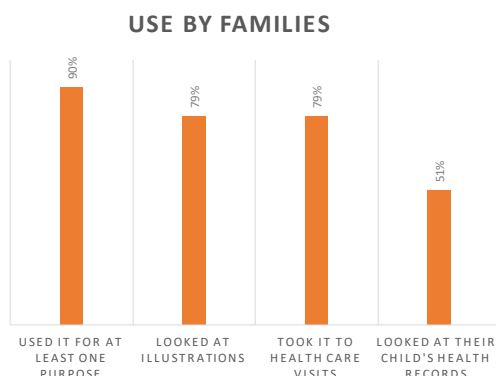
150
Healthcare Providers & Management Staff Trained

12
Monitoring Visits

Findings of MCH Handbook Pilot Project Process Evaluation

The process evaluation of MCH handbook focused to evaluate ability of distribution and retention of handbook and use of handbook by families and health providers. It also focused on perspectives of families and health care providers about the handbook; organizational management requirements; and costs associated with the implementation.

The evaluation revealed that the retention rate of MCH handbook among families was 99.5% after 6 months of receiving the handbook.



MCH Handbook Scale-up Plan



Gradual scale-up and implementation of MCH handbook is planned for all provinces. Currently limited fund is available for gradual scale-up of MCH handbook as per below schedule:

- 3 provinces by June 2019
- 8 new provinces by June 2020
- All 34 provinces by June 2021

Integration of MCH handbook into current BPHS/EPHS system is needed for its institutionalization.

Digitalization of records is also considered for future years as it is scaled up.

Stakeholders and Partners during Pilot Implementation

MoPH Departments:

- RMNCAH
- Health Promotion
- EPI
- Nutrition
- EHIS/HMIS
- PPHDs (Kabul, Nangarhar)



Implementation Stakeholders:

- JICA
- UNICEF
- WHO



Other Partners:

- AMA
- AADA
- MOVE
- AIL

