



Facility Periodic Assessments

Objectives

Facility periodic assessments need to be conducted to fulfil the following objectives:

- To establish a baseline status of quality of childbirth services in the facilities
- To review the progress of improvements in quality of services as a result of program activities
- To identify the bottlenecks related to quality of childbirth services and help facilities develop focused action plans to address these bottlenecks
- To develop a database to undertake a comparative analysis quality of services provided by various facilities.

Tools for assessment

There are four tools recommended for assessment of facilities—for 1 through 4. A brief description of the forms is as follows:

Form 1

This form is used to assess the status of services being provided by the facility. This includes key service statistics, status of availability of human resources, qualifications and training of human resources, and information on type of services being offered by the facility. This form needs to be completed only once during the program implementation unless the status or scope of the facility changes significantly (such as a PHC being upgraded to a CHC, or functional status of an FRU changes)

Form 2

This form is used to assess the status of availability of supplies and equipment essential for health workers to adhere to life saving practices targeted under Dakshata program. The form also has an inbuilt template for developing an action plan.

Form 3

This form is used to assess the status of labor room environment in the target facility against the recommendations made in the 'Guidelines for Standardization of Labor Rooms in India' released by the MoHFW, GoI in the year 2016. There are seven standards in this form. All the standards in the form are important to ensure that the health workers are given an enabling environment for adhering to life-saving and respectful care practices during childbirth. An action plan needs to be developed identifying the bottleneck and response strategies for each unmet standard.

Form 4

This form is used to assess the status of adherence to life saving practices targeted under Dakshata in the targeted facilities. This form has 19 core standards, each representing an essential practice to be performed during childbirth. Each standard has essential elements and verification criteria representing the steps and the required resources for performing that practice. After completing an assessment, the assessor can easily identify the specific issue (skill, resource, environment) that is causing non-adherence to that essential practice. An action plan needs to be developed identifying the bottleneck and response strategies for each unmet standard.

Frequency of assessment

Periodic assessments of the target facilities need to be completed at least once every quarter. Out of the four assessment forms form 1 needs to be completed only once at the baseline, or at any other

time facility's status and scope of services changes significantly. Rest of the forms need to be completed at least once every quarter.

Assessors

Dakshata coordinators, mentors, or any other officials assigned at district or state level who have been trained on the assessment methodology can conduct a facility assessment.

After Assessment

As a part of the assessment, the assessor need to complete an action plan in partnership with the facility-incharge and key relevant staff. A template of action plan is given along with the forms. This action plan needs to list each unmet practice and the plans with specific responsibilities to improve compliance to these practices. Similarly for each missing supply and unmet labor room environment standard, a plan needs to be develop to address any identified bottlenecks. Copies of the assessment and action plan need to be provided to the facility incharge for self-monitoring of progress.