Quantitative Evaluation of Essential and Emergency Surgical, Obstetric, and Anesthetic Capacity in Ethiopia

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Disclosure

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Introduction

• Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health, in collaboration with Harvard Medical School’s Program in Global Surgery and Social Change, designed a country-specific hospital assessment tool to evaluate the surgical system.
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AIM: Quantify the availability of surgical, obstetric, and anesthesia services as part of the national baseline for Ethiopia’s Saving Lives Through Safe Surgery (SaLTS) initiative.
Methods

• 14 hospitals in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People’s Region of Ethiopia
• 4 semi-structured provider interviews per facility
• Service Availability and Readiness Assessment (SARA) analysis method
Basic surgeries (e.g.):
- I&D
- Irrigation and debridement of open fractures
- Hydrocelectomy

Comprehensive surgeries (e.g.):
- Appendicitis
- Hernia
- Ex lap

Availability of Basic and Comprehensive Surgical Procedures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Comprehensive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary (n = 11)</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General/Specialized (n = 3)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (n = 14)</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Basic surgery tracer items (e.g.):**
- Scalpel
- Needles and sutures
- Lidocaine IV

**Comprehensive surgery tracer items (e.g.):**
- Functional anesthesia machine
- ETT
- Epinephrine

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### Readiness to Deliver Surgical Services

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**Color Key:**
- Blue: Basic
- Orange: Comprehensive
Conclusion

• Despite the large gaps identified in the readiness of facilities to deliver surgical services, primary hospitals were providing 84% of basic surgeries and general and specialized hospitals were providing 84% of comprehensive surgeries.

• The next challenge is scaling the adapted tool to obtain a national baseline and addressing the identified gaps through implementation of the SaLTS initiative.
Thank You