ENGAGING HEALTH FACILITY TEAMS TO IMPROVE MALARIA DATA QUALITY, USE, AND SERVICE DELIVERY IN AKWA IBOM STATE

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Introduction

The National Health Management Information System (NHMIS) is one of the six building blocks of health systems that integrate data collection, processing, reporting, and use. Data is critical to delivering high-quality malaria services and guides malaria elimination efforts in Nigeria.

Methods

A descriptive quantitative analysis of NHMIS data on the proportion of fever cases tested for malaria and confirmed uncomplicated malaria treated with artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) was conducted in the selected HFs. This covered a 2-year period (January 2020 – December 2021).

Results

• Data availability across the HFs improved from 59% in 2020 to 100% between July and December 2021 when the DQTs were set up and monthly data reviews were conducted.
• Improvement in malaria service delivery; in 2020, 73% of data records of fever cases tested for malaria deviated from the national target of 100%, and this dropped to 16% between July and December 2021.
• For the proportion of confirmed uncomplicated malaria cases treated with ACTs, service delivery gaps reduced from 58% in 2020 to 3% by December 2021.

Discussion

• Implementing this strategy should take into consideration factors that continue to support sustainability and ownership such as skills transfer from members of the DQT to all relevant HF staff and continuous on-the-job mentoring from government supervisors to HF teams.
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References

1. Monitoring the building blocks of health systems: a handbook of indicators and their measurement strategies, World Health Organization, 2010