

PAC Connection Meeting Highlights

September 15, 2017

Attendees: Erin Mielke (USAID), Emily Hillman (USAID), Claudia Conlon (USAID), Erika Houghtaling (USAID) Bethany Arnold (Jhpiego), Mark Hathaway (Jhpiego), Nuriye Hodoglugil (Jhpiego), Devon Mackenzie (Jhpiego), Willibrod Shasha (Jhpiego), Grace Lusiola (EngenderHealth), Colin Baynes (EngenderHealth), Carmela Cordero (EngenderHealth), Sara Malkoff (EngenderHealth), Elizabeth Tully (Johns Hopkins CCP), Tembi Mugore (Pathfinder International), Erin Degraw (Pathfinder International), Alison Bodenheimer Gatto (FP2020), Isha Datta (FP2020)

Guidance on Participation in APAC (formerly PAC) Consortium Meetings – Aasha Jackson, *Policy Fellow, Office of Population and Reproductive Health, USAID*

The Postabortion Care Consortium has expanded their scope to include safe abortion care and changed their name to the Abortion and Postabortion Care Consortium (APACC). Aasha provided reminders related to compliance for USAID-implementing partners, as many previously participated in the PAC Consortium. If you have additional questions related to participation and attendance in meetings, please contact your A/COR.

Following Aasha's presentation, the group decided it would be beneficial to set up a full-day compliance training with Aasha in the coming months. If you have specific questions that you would like to address in this training, please send them to elizabeth.tully@jhu.edu.

Supporting Strategic Decision Making in Family Planning – Erika Houghtaling, *USAID*

Erika provided a range of updates on High Impact Practices (HIPs) for Family Planning, including the briefs, the decision making guides, meetings, and evidence reviews. She shared the new HIP briefs that will be published this fall – Immediate Postpartum Family Planning, Mass Media, and Digital Health for Health Systems. She provided updates on other upcoming briefs including: Social Franchising, Digital Health for Client Support, and Interpersonal Counseling. As for decision making guides, the Male Engagement guide is currently in development and a guide on Family Planning in a Humanitarian Setting is being discussed. Erika shared brief updates on a number of recent HIP TAG and Partners Meetings and invited anyone interested to attend an upcoming virtual HIP Partners Meeting in December. The final section of Erika's presentation focused on the evidence reviews that provide a more timely update of new evidence into the HIP briefs. The Postabortion Family Planning brief is next up on the list for an evidence review, so Erika is asking that the group submit documents/studies on postabortion family planning from after 2012. Please submit to ehoughtaling@usaid.gov.

PAC Journal Supplement – Colin Baynes, *EngenderHealth*

Colin walked the group through the process and timeline for the PAC Journal Supplement, based on if we move forward with the Global Health Science & Practice Journal. While the decision to move forward with that journal is not final, it appears to be the best approach given the journal's interest and willingness to publish programmatic pieces. Interested projects should start nailing down some topics to publish on that are suited to your project's work. Once all of the topics are nailed down, the overarching theme can be developed. The

concept note and abstracts are aimed to be submitted by Oct 31. Please contact [Colin Baynes](#) if your project would like to contribute to the supplement.

Project Updates - Group

Jhpiego

- Nuriye is going to a PAC training in Afghanistan. She wants a strong FP component. There is a lot of work being done in PPIUD and Sayana Press so she's interested to see how those things can be worked into postabortion care and ensuring equipment is available – for example an IUD inserter. She discussed the challenges of security and human resource turnover in that setting.
- Bethany shared that some lessons learned will be shared soon on integrating PAC into a larger MCH program in West Africa

PAC-FP Project/EngenderHealth

- Colin & Grace gave the background on the project to new attendees in the room.
- The project is collaborating with other organizations to see how much priority is given to PAC in those projects to document the situation and use the lessons learned to scale-up PAC.
- Grace will provide updated project results at the next meeting.

E2A/Pathfinder

- Working to institutionalize PAC in Togo guidelines.
- Proposing work with the Ministry of Health in Burkina Faso to look at client follow-up as an opportunity to reinforce counseling.

FP2020

- The PP/PA FP Team has 24 focus countries
- At the upcoming Focal Point Meeting in November, there will be a PP/PA FP day.

Other Notes and Updates

- The PAC training curriculum is going through compliance review – stay tuned.
- The PAC Global Health eLearning Course is about to be published.
- There is a module focused on [postabortion IUD in the LARC Learning Resource Package](#) and it will be soon available in French & Spanish.
- A new standard indicators report is available on MEASURE Evaluation and there are several indicators specific to postabortion family planning.