

Abstract Preview - Step 3/4

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Topic: 1 Child Health and Survival, Millenium development goals

Title: *HELPING BABIES BREATHE: QUALITATIVE RESULTS FROM FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS (FGDS) DURING THE VALIDATION TRIAL IN KENYA*

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Text: **AIMS:** Focus group discussions (FGDs) evaluated the acceptability, utility, and sustainability of *Helping Babies Breathe (HBB)* through feedback regarding training methods, materials, and assessments.

METHODS: HBB is an evidence-based neonatal resuscitation (NR) training program for resource-limited settings. HBB validation occurred in Kenya in 2009. Immediately after each HBB training session, a trained facilitator conducted FGDs. Computer-based thematic analysis identified key points.

Results: Seventy Kenyan birth attendants (BAs) participated in a total of 7 FGDs, (3 Teacher and 4 Learner groups). Participants included doctors, nurses, nurse-midwives, domiciliary midwives and community health workers. Discussion domains included HBB content, structure, materials, assessment; old/new NR skills; and challenges to sustainability. Participants suggested training time be increased beyond one day. Pair-teaching and hands-on training in bag-and-mask ventilation (BMV) were considered successful training strategies. The Golden MinuteSM concept was well-understood and considered valuable. Overall, educational materials and equipment were considered well-designed and useful. The assessment tools (multiple choice questionnaire, BMV and OSCE performance evaluations) received mixed reaction. Old NR techniques included holding a baby upside down, shaking to release secretions, slapping feet, and sucking secretions by mouth. BAs shared ideas about how to integrate males into the HBB process, concerns about current MOH policies regarding Traditional BAs, and the need to support initial efforts with refresher training and adequate equipment stocks.

CONCLUSIONS: The HBB course and materials are highly acceptable and were enthusiastically received in Kenya. Potential challenges to sustainability include integration of HBB among all stakeholders, including health facility and community-based birth attendants

Conflict of Interest: None declared

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