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Questionnaire for Assessing Maternal Perinatal Death Surveillance (MPDSR) Processes at the Subnational level

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Purpose and guidance for completing the questionnaire¹

- This questionnaire is designed to help subnational managers, implementing partners and stakeholders to better understand the structures and activities that support MPDSR, MDSR and PDSR processes in this region/ province/state or district – so that they can collectively target their efforts to strengthen MPDSR.
- This questionnaire should be used in settings where MPDSR, MDSR, PDSR is being implemented already.
- This questionnaire can be completed in two ways:
 - The subnational Manager or stakeholder can independently complete the questionnaire
 - A trained assessor can complete the questionnaire while interviewing the stakeholder
- Examples of regional and district subnational managers or stakeholders include regional or district MOH managers, members of regional or district MPDSR committees, implementing partners, members of professional health associations and others who support MPDSR in the region/district.

Please note the date and check the appropriate box for how this questionnaire was completed:

Date: _____

Name of subnational stakeholder: _____

☐ Questionnaire completed by myself

☐ Questionnaire completed during an interviewer.

Name of interviewer: _____

Interviewee Background Information

1. What is your current job title? _____
2. Which items below describe your current role(s) (please check all that apply):
 - ☐ I am a regional (or provincial, state) Ministry of Health (MOH) manager
 - ☐ I am a member of a regional MPDSR team
 - ☐ I am a member of a regional MDSR team

¹ This questionnaire is focused on processes at the subnational level (e.g. regional, district); there is a separate questionnaire that examines MPDSR processes at the facility level.

- ☐ I am a member of a regional PDSR team
- ☐ I am a district MOH manager
- ☐ I am a member of a district MPDSR team
- ☐ I am a member of a district MDSR team
- ☐ I am a member of a district PDSR team
- ☐ I am a member of a professional association who supports MPDSR in this region
- ☐ I work for a local NGO or institution that supports MPDSR in this region
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Support for Implementation of MPDSR in your region/district

Management Structures

3. In your region (or province or state) is there a designated coordinator who supports MPDSR at regional and/or district levels (please check all that apply)?

Committee	Regional	District
MPDSR coordinator	☐	☐
MDSR coordinator	☐	☐
PDSR coordinator	☐	☐

4. In your region are there MPDSR committees at regional and/or district level (please check all that apply)?

Committee	Regional	District
MPDSR combined committee	☐	☐
MDSR committee	☐	☐
PDSR committee	☐	☐

5. Please check which of the following health workers/managers are members of the MPDSR regional and/or district committee (if no committee exists, please leave blank):

Regional MPDSR Committee	District MPDSR Committee
☐ Health information officer	☐ Health information officer
☐ Regional or District Medical Officer	☐ Regional or District Medical Officer
☐ Anaesthetist	☐ Anaesthetist
☐ Laboratory Manager	☐ Laboratory Manager
☐ Pharmacist Manager	☐ Pharmacist Manager
☐ Midwife	☐ Midwife
☐ Nurse	☐ Nurse
☐ Paediatrician ☐ N/A (we do not review perinatal deaths)	☐ Paediatrician ☐ N/A (we do not review perinatal deaths)
☐ Neonatologist ☐ N/A (we do not review perinatal deaths)	☐ Neonatologist ☐ N/A (we do not review perinatal deaths)

Regional MPDSR Committee	District MPDSR Committee
☐ Obstetrician	☐ Obstetrician
☐ Community representative	☐ Community representative
☐ Other (please specify) _____	☐ Other (please specify) _____

MPDSR Forms, Reports, Information

6. Are the following forms physically available for use in your regional and/or district office?
Please check the appropriate box.

	Maternal	Perinatal
Standardized death notification form	☐	☐
Standardized death review form	☐	☐
Job aid to support cause of death classification (e.g. ICD-MM or ICD-PM job aid)	☐	☐

7. What, if any system, is used to classify maternal and perinatal deaths in your region/district (please check all that apply)?
- ☐ No regular death classification system used for maternal or perinatal deaths
 - ☐ No regular death classification system used for maternal deaths
 - ☐ No regular death classification system used for perinatal deaths
 - ☐ ICD-10
 - ☐ ICD-MM (for maternal deaths)
 - ☐ ICD-PM (for perinatal deaths)
 - ☐ Modified ICD-10 (please describe): _____
 - ☐ Unsure
 - ☐ Other, specify: _____
8. Is a Regional MPDSR report prepared on a regular basis? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- a. If yes what is the frequency of the report: ☐ Annual ☐ Quarterly ☐ Monthly ☐ Other
 - b. If yes, does the report include specific recommendations? Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
 - c. If yes, are point persons named to follow up on specific actions at the regional level?
9. Is a District MPDSR report prepared on a regular basis? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- a. If yes what is the frequency of the report: ☐ Annual ☐ Quarterly ☐ Monthly ☐ other
 - b. If yes, does the report include specific recommendations? Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
 - c. If yes, are point persons named to follow up specific actions at the district level? Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
10. Are MPDSR findings and recommendations from your region ever shared with national managers (please select one option below)?
- ☐ Yes, on a regular basis
 - ☐ Yes, sometimes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Unsure

11. Are MPDSR findings and recommendations ever shared with community stakeholders in your region or district (e.g. community groups, village leaders)? Please select one option below.

- ☐ Yes, on a regular basis
- ☐ Yes, sometimes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

12. Are maternal deaths that occur in the community included in your HMIS report?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

13. Are perinatal deaths that occur in the community include in your HMIS report? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Unsure

If yes, what mechanisms exist to identify maternal and perinatal deaths in the community and make sure they get reported?

14. Are maternal deaths that occur in the community reviewed? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

15. Are perinatal deaths that occur in the community reviewed? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

16. Can you tell us about a specific policy or change that was implemented based on MPDSR findings?

- ☐ I am not aware of any change that was implemented as the result of MPDSR in this region/district
- ☐ Yes, I am aware of a change implemented by a regional or district stakeholder (please describe):

☐ Yes, I am aware of a change implemented by a facility staff member (please describe):

17. In your opinion, do the registers and patient records currently used in the facilities in your region/district capture the necessary data for assessing cause of death?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

If no, what could be done to improve the availability of this information?

18. In your opinion, do the registers and patient records currently used in the facilities in your region/district capture the necessary data for identifying the contributing factors as part of maternal and perinatal death audits?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

If no, what could be done to improve the availability of this information?

19. Do you have any concerns about the quality of information related to maternal deaths, stillbirths, and/or neonatal deaths in your region (e.g. data on deaths? Data on cause of death? Data on key contributors, etc.)

- ☐ Yes, for both maternal and perinatal deaths
☐ Yes, for maternal deaths
☐ Yes, for perinatal deaths
☐ No

If yes, what changes would you make to improve the quality of this information?

20. Is there any regular process in your district/region to assess the quality and accuracy of birth and death data as part of supervision activities in facilities?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

If yes, please describe:

MPDSR Training and Supervision Support

21. In general, what level of technical support do hospital health workers in your region/district need to collect and report quality MPDSR information to district/regional Managers (please check one box)?

- ☐ A lot of technical support
☐ A little technical support
☐ No technical support

22. In general, what level of technical support do health centre health workers in your region/district need to collect and report quality MPDSR information to district/regional Managers (please check one box)?

- ☐ A lot of technical support
☐ A little technical support
☐ No technical support

23. Please answer the following questions about MPDSR training activities in your region/district (please check all that apply)

- a. There are regular MPDSR training opportunities for Regional MOH health managers
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- b. There are regular MPDSR training opportunities for District MOH health managers
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- c. There are regular MPDSR training opportunities for regional MPDSR Committee Members
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- d. There are regular MPDSR training opportunities for district MPDSR Committee Members
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- e. At least one Regional MOH Manager participated in an MPDSR training within the past year
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- f. At least one District MOH Manager participated in an MPDSR training within the past year
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- g. Regional health managers organize at least one training per year (on-site or off-site) to build MPDSR skills of district and/or facility health workers in the region
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- h. District health managers organize at least one training per year (on-site or off-site) to build MPDSR skills of facility health workers in the region
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

24. Please answer the following questions about MPDSR supervision activities in your region or district (please check all that apply):

Supervision visits regularly include:

- a. Review of primary death data (e.g. patient chart, maternity register, etc.) ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Unsure
- b. Review of death review reports ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- c. Review of MPDSR committee meeting minutes ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- d. Review of implementation of death review follow-up actions ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure
- e. Other (please add): _____

Financial support of MPDSR activities

25. Is there a line item in the regional annual MOH budget to support:
- ☐ Combined MPDSR activities in the region (e.g. travel for committee meetings)?
 - ☐ MDSR activities in the region?
 - ☐ PDSR activities in the region?
 - ☐ There is no budget line item to support any MPDSR activities
 - ☐ I am not sure
26. Is there a line item in the district annual MOH budget to support:
- ☐ Combined MPDSR activities in the region?
 - ☐ MDSR activities in the region?
 - ☐ PDSR activities in the region?
 - ☐ There is no budget line item to support any MPDSR activities
 - ☐ I am not sure
27. Is there any direct financial support provided by the MOH to facilities to implement MPDSR activities?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Unsure

If yes, please describe:

Avoiding Blame and Ensuring Confidentiality

28. Is there a formal code of meeting conduct for:
- a. Regional MPDSR committee meetings:
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ N/A because (there is no regional MPDSR committee)
 - b. District MPDSR committee meetings
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ N/A because (there is no district MPDSR committee)
- If yes, are MPDSR Committee members expected to sign the meeting code of conduct?
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
29. Are the names of individual managers or health workers ever included in death audit reports?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Unsure

If yes, please describe:

30. In your view, is there any connection between professional disciplinary action and MPDSR activities in your region/district?

- ☐ No
☐ Unsure

If yes, please describe:

31. Do you see any risks associated with the M/PDSR process (please check “yes” if at least one interviewee responds yes)?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

If yes, please describe:

Quality Improvement and MPDSR in your region/district

32. Is there a strategy for improving quality of maternal and perinatal care for women and neonates in your region?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ I don't know

33. Please “check” which MPDSR structures and staff positions exist at various levels in your region:

	Region	Most districts in the region	Most hospitals in the region	Most health centres in the region
a. There is a combined QI and MPDSR committee (i.e. a single committee that oversees QI and MPDSR activities)	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. There is a distinct QI committee that oversees QI activities	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. There is a single MOH staff position that oversees regional QI and MPDSR activities	☐	☐	☐	☐
d. There is a single MOH staff position that oversees regional MPDSR activities (e.g. QI Coordinator)	☐	☐	☐	☐
e. There is a single MOH staff position that oversees QI activities (e.g. QI Coordinator)	☐	☐	☐	☐

34. If there are separate QI and MPDSR committees at the regional level, do they share any common members?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Not applicable (no distinct QI and MPDSR committee in the region)
35. In your view, are MPDSR committees generally aware of QI objectives and activities in your region?
- ☐ Yes, very aware
 - ☐ Yes, somewhat aware
 - ☐ No, not aware
36. In your view, are QI committees generally aware of MPDSR objectives and activities in your region?
- ☐ Yes, very aware
 - ☐ Yes, somewhat aware
 - ☐ No, not aware

Final Questions to understand your perspectives on MPDSR

37. In your view, what are the key factors that facilitate MPDSR implementation in your region/district?
38. In your view, what are the major challenges / barriers to implementing MPDSR processes in your region/district?
39. What changes would you make to strengthen implementation of MPDSR processes in your region/district?
40. Do you see any risks associated with implementing M/PDSR processes in your region/district?
- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

If yes, please describe:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Please feel free to note below anything else like you would like to share about MPDSR in your region/district.

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