DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO SUPPORT HEALTH TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

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The first information system for the inventory of medical devices openMEDIS was developed with the support of Swiss Cooperation Office in the frame of PERINAT Project. Starting from 2009 the information system was piloted in 37 perinatal centers and extended in 2012 to national level, resulting in a database with 25 000 medical devices covering 180 health facilities.

The first inventory revealed a lack of bioengineers and qualified personnel in health facilities. In most cases the data was collected and entered into the information system by accountants, IT specialists, nurses etc. This resulted in a negative impact on data quality. The collected information was difficult to be grouped or summarized because the interpretation of classifiers was different depending on the profession of the person who entered the data into the system.

The main conclusion from the implementation of the IS openMEDIS is - the inventory is necessary for all actors starting from the Ministry of Health till the Health Facility level, but the data quality is the main concern. For this reason the Swiss Cooperation Office complemented the REPEMOL Project with a new component – "Information System for the Management of Medical Devices".

To be able to answer the question "How data can be improved?", the Project conducted an HTM study based on a questionnaire containing the following chapters – general information and contact data, inventory of medical devices in the health facility, implementation of HTM procedures in the health facility and training needs. The study covered 80% of public facilities of second and third level and 35% of public primary healthcare institutions. The main findings of the HTM study showed that most health facilities have a person responsible for medical devices, but don't have a HTM department/workshop or tools necessary to perform maintenance procedures. Most institutions would like to have an information system for HTM integrated with the accounting software to avoid double data entry.

Lessons learned from IS openMEDIS and HTM study became the pylons of the new software platform – Information System for the Management of Medical Devices (ISMDM) that has the following features: centralized management of classifiers, access to functionalities and data based on roles, exchange of data with related information systems, adapted to national practices and legislation (centralized procurement, vigilance).

The Project will improve other components of data quality like inventory methodology, SOP's, user trainings.

Next steps are the ISMDM launch, first round of user trainings, national inventory, collected data analysis and development of the medical device report 2016.