Strengthening Health Systems and Blood Services through a Primary Health Care Approach

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Outline of the Presentation

- Blood Transfusion Services – essential and integral element of a health system
- Blood Safety Resolutions (global and regional) 1975-2010
- Initiatives to improve blood safety
- Health system building blocks
- Primary health care approach
- Pillars for achieving sustainable blood systems and services
**Blood Transfusion Services (BTS)**

- Access to a safe and sufficient supply of blood and blood products - essential requirement for every health-care system.

- Increasing need for blood and blood products
  - with expansion in health system coverage
  - with changes in population demography, disease burden profile, nutritional status and lifestyle
  - for treating patients with diverse clinical needs

- BTS is responsible for ensuring access to safe and adequate blood supply to meet the needs of the health-care system in any country.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>WHA28.72</td>
<td>Utilization and supply of human blood and blood products</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>EB79.1</td>
<td>Blood and blood products</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>WHA40.26</td>
<td>Global strategy for prevention and control of AIDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>WHA45.35</td>
<td>Global strategy for prevention and control of AIDS</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>WHA48.27</td>
<td>Paris AIDS Summit</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Blood Safety as a priority &amp; World Health Day 7 April, Global strategy for blood safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>WHA53.14</td>
<td>HIV/AIDS: Confronting the epidemic</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>WHA55.13</td>
<td>Region Quality of care: patient safety</td>
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### WHA/EB/RC Resolutions on Blood Safety

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>WHA58.13</td>
<td>World Blood Donor Day, 14 June</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>CD46.R5</td>
<td>Regional blood safety initiative (Americas)</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>WHA60.24</td>
<td>Health promotion in globalized world</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>WHA60.29</td>
<td>Health technologies</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>CD142.R5</td>
<td>Blood Transfusion Safety: Progress report</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>WHA63.12</td>
<td>Availability, safety and quality of blood products</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>WHA63.18</td>
<td>Viral hepatitis</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>WHA63.20</td>
<td>Chagas disease: control and elimination</td>
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Global & Regional Initiatives to Improve Blood Safety

- Recognition of blood safety as a key prevention strategy to combat HIV/AIDS, hepatitis and other TTI has led to major global, regional and national initiatives to strengthen BTS

- Global Health Initiatives including PEPFAR, Global Fund and World Bank and other key partners have transformed the landscape of blood systems in many developing countries

- Developing BTS as an integral part of national health system - a key strategy recommended by these resolutions and initiatives
Developing a National Blood System

- Government's responsibility to develop national systems for the timely availability, safety, quality and efficacy of blood/blood products

- Developing a national blood system:
  - Leadership and governance
  - Coordination and collaboration
  - Provision of safe blood and blood products
  - Clinical transfusion in patient management
Core Components of a National Blood System

- Specific unit within the MoH for coordination, programme management and monitoring of the blood system throughout the country

- Advisory body with major stakeholders to assist MoH in formulating policy and plans, setting standards and advising on key issues

- BTS involved in donor recruitment, blood and plasma collection, and the testing, processing, storage and distribution of blood and blood products
Core Components of a National Blood System

- Common service delivery models include:
  - A single service provider, either Govt. or delegated to a not-for-profit, NGO
  - Multiple service providers, including Govt. and NGOs, and private institutions

- Hospital blood banks, clinical transfusion services and transfusion committees for timely provision of compatible blood and its safe and appropriate use

- Requires coordination and collaboration with relevant ministries, reference laboratories, and agencies and institutions for public health, regulation, accreditation, plasma fractionation and industry
Gaps in Health Systems in Developing Countries

- High maternal mortality, huge burden of HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases - major public health problems in Africa

- Common deficiencies in the health system:
  - inadequate number of qualified health workers for effective service delivery; staff attrition and turnover
  - inadequate infrastructure
  - weak procurement, supply management and logistic systems
  - inequalities in service coverage
  - shortage of financial resources
  - ineffective financial management system
  - inadequate health information systems for monitoring and analysis of health indicators
Health Systems Building Blocks

Leadership/governance
Information
Health workforce
Service delivery
People
Financing
Medical products, vaccines and technologies
Integrating the National Blood System within the Wider Health System

- Advocate and facilitate the integration of blood safety in relevant national health strategies, policies, plans and guidelines
- Support integration and linkages with wider health programmes and services, including
  - HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, malaria
  - Maternal and child health
  - Health systems strengthening
  - Laboratory strengthening
  - Hospital and emergency services
Integrating the National Blood System within the Wider Health System

- **Leadership and governance**: Formulate strategic policy frameworks for blood systems, defining goals, directions and priorities, and identifying the roles of the public, private and voluntary sectors and civil society in the provision and use of blood and blood products.

- **Service delivery**: Assess infrastructure requirements and procurement systems, and promote effective models of blood service delivery to expand coverage, improve access and enhance the quality of services.
Integrating the National Blood System within the Wider Health System

- **Health workforce**: Integrate the BTS human resource plan in the national HRH plan
  - to strengthen capacity at all levels through career pathways
  - for transformative scale-up of training and approaches to enhance staff motivation, performance and retention

- **Sustainable health financing system**: Improve the efficiency of resource use; developing financing options and mechanisms to ensure adequate, sustainable funds for cost-efficient blood services, as part of national health financing
Integrating the National Blood System within the Wider Health System

- Comprehensive information management system:
  - support the establishment of a one country-led monitoring and evaluation platform for improved strategic information
  - includes surveillance and haemovigilance data to
    - review the blood safety response
    - assess the impact of blood system strengthening
Essential Health Technologies Blood Transfusion Safety

Policy, governance, standards & regulation of BTS

Monitoring, Surveillance vigilance, learning & improving

Clinical transfusion and patient safety

Blood Transfusion Service

Recruitment, Testing, Prescribing, Transportation, Follow-up

Collection, Processing, Issuing, Transfusion

BT Organization delivery and data mgt system

BT Financing

BT education & training, career structure

Community education and participation for voluntary blood donation

Blocks of the overall health system

Hospital Blood Bank

Clinical Ward
Four areas of Primary Health Care reform

- Addressing health inequalities
- People-centered care
- Better public policies
- Stronger leadership

World Health Report 2008

Strengthening Health Systems & Blood Services through a PHC Approach – AfSBT June 2012
Sustainability

- Building on progress and achievements of global, regional and national initiatives, need to focus on a transition from the response to HIV risks from unsafe blood to development of sustainable national blood systems.

- Linkages with national policies, strategies, plans, financial systems and HR development in the health care system to move toward sustainability.

- Linkage with global initiatives on development and aide effectiveness to move toward sustainable national blood systems.
High Level Fora on Development and Aid Effectiveness

Building country ownership

Making Development Work Better
Developing Sustainable National Blood System and Services

Voluntary blood donation

Testing of all donated blood

Safe and rational use of blood

Service Delivery

Financing, Workforce & Information

Leadership, Policies and Strategic Plans
Key Messages

- To establish safe and sustainable blood systems, we must
  - Develop blood system as integral component in the health system
  - Link blood system with health system strengthening initiatives
  - Implement primary health care approach to HSS as the foundation for universal coverage, health equality, social justice and people-centred care
  - Work towards alignment of country-owned strategies
  - Nurture leadership and country ownership
World Blood Donor Day 2012

On 14 June, countries worldwide celebrate World Blood Donor Day with events to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products and to thank voluntary unpaid blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood.

The theme of the 2012 World Blood Donor Day campaign, “Every blood donor is a hero” focuses on the idea that every one of us can become a hero by giving blood. While recognizing the silent and unsung heroes who save lives every day through their blood donations, the theme also strongly encourages more people all over the world to donate blood voluntarily and regularly.

More about World Blood Donor Day 2012
Announcement letter 2012

Blood donations worldwide
- 92 million annually by all types of blood

Donors aged under 25 years
- 45% of all donations collected in low- and middle-income countries

Female donors
- 40% or more of the blood supply in 25 countries

Thank you