

NURHI OPPORTUNITY STOCK CONCEPT NOTE

Awarded in September 2009, the Nigeria Urban Reproductive Health Initiative (NURHI) is a five year project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that aims to eliminate the supply and demand barriers to contraceptive use in order to increase the contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) by 20 percentage points in six urban cities of Ibadan, Ilorin, Kaduna, Zaria, Abuja, Benin and areas of Nigeria.

The goal of NURHI is to increase CPR by at least 20 percentage points in Phase One target cities of Ilorin, Ibadan, FCT, Kaduna and Phase Two cities of Benin and Zaria.

In 2010, NURHI carried out an assessment of how both private and public sectors contraceptive supply systems work in the four NURHI start up cities [Ilorin, Abuja, Kaduna and Ibadan]. The assessment documented severe shortage of contraceptives in Nigeria and established the fact that unless contraceptives could be accessed, NURHI will not be able to reach its goals. The contraceptive commodity situation in the public sector was bleak. Stocks on hand then were either non-existent or inadequate. Most stock records were very poor with lower-levels mostly either missing or poorly maintained. However, in some cases, while stock records were intact and up-to-date the pipeline was considerably weak. In the private sector, many clinics and patent medicine vendors (PMVs) accessed contraceptives through social marketing (primarily through SFH) or from the open market and there was no price control

In order to meet its goal, the project had to develop an innovative approach that will ensure and sustain contraceptive supply to both the public and private sectors in all NURHI cities.

NURHI's key strategic approach to ensure no contraceptive stock-outs throughout the project's duration is known as the "NURHI Opportunity Stock." Under the Nigeria Contraceptive Partnership between USAID and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, USAID Nigeria donated contraceptive commodities worth about \$2 million to NURHI to cover contraceptive needs in both public and the private sector coverage of the project for two years (2012-2014).

These commodities are combination 3 (oral contraceptive pill), Copper T 380 A (Intrauterine contraceptive device), Jadelle (contraceptive implant) and Depo Provera (contraceptive injectable method).

These commodities are available as branded products for the private sector and as unbranded for the public sector health facilities.

NURHI worked with Society for Family Health (SFH) through a Memorandum of Understanding to use SFH distribution channels to transport the opportunity stock to the private sector (PMVs, Pharmacies & Health facilities) in NURHI sites through accredited FPPN pharmaceutical wholesalers. The private sector gets the opportunity stock at controlled prices.

The unbranded opportunity stock to the public sector is useful during clinical outreaches or during periods of stock outs where it fills in the gap

The NURHI opportunity stock approach has been very useful in preventing commodity stock outs thus assuring commodity security and FP uptake to increase CPR