









## **Purpose**

 The purpose of the presentation is to highlight SIAPS work in improving rational medicines use and containment of antimicrobial resistance in Africa



# WHO recommends Drug and Therapeutics Committees (DTCs) to enhance rational medicine use and contain antimicrobial resistance (AMR)





#### **About SIAPS**

- USAID funded program
- Lead implementer: Management Sciences for Health
- 2012 2017
- Focus on improving access to pharmaceutical and effective pharmaceutical services
- Working in 16 countries
- Areas include governance in the pharmaceutical sector, human and institutional capacity building, information for decision making, financing, and availability of medicines





## **Drug and Therapeutics Committee**

- MSH has been supporting PTC since early 2000's
- Collaborative work with WHO under the USAID predecessor program, RPM & RPM-plus
- Improve medicine use by prescribers & patients
- Slow the emergence of antimicrobial resistance





#### Where do we work?

- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Ethiopia
- Jordan
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- South Africa
- Kingdom of Swaziland

- Liberia
- Mali
- Guinea
- Angola
- Cameroon
- Burundi
- Rwanda





#### **Interventions**

- 1,411 health workers (doctors, nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technologists, hospital administrators)
- On-site technical assistance
- Supportive supervision
- Provision of material and resources

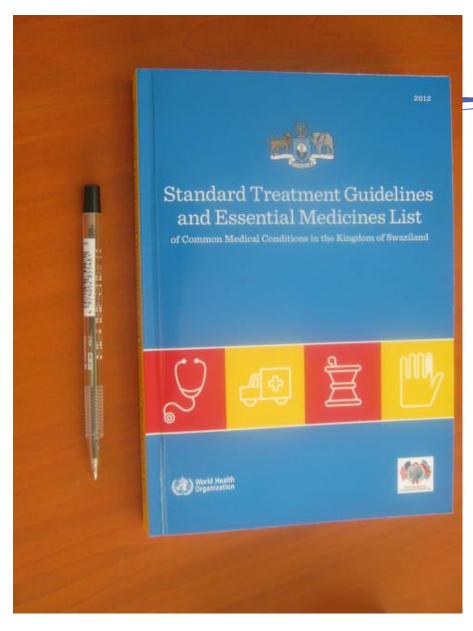




#### Results

- Ethiopia
  - Developed a cefriaxone use policy
- South Africa
  - Developed and disseminated a guidance document for DTCs operating at all health care levels
- Swaziland
  - Facility DTCs implemented QIP focusing on medicines use and AMR



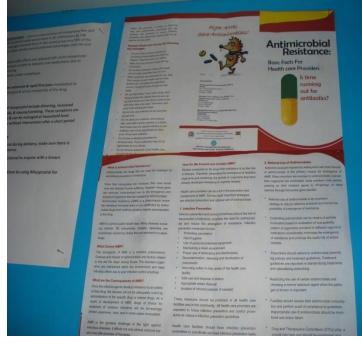


- World Health Organisation Afro
- PEPFAR Swaziland
- Management Sciences for Health / SPS
- PSI
- Swaziland Nursing Council
- Medical and Dental Association
- Swaziland Nursing Association
- SNAP
- Malaria program
- WFP
- Nazarene Health Institute



















#### **Lessons Learnt**

- Training is necessary to jump-start the DTC
- Ongoing technical assistance is key to the active functioning of the DTC
- Staff rotation can negatively affect the functioning of the DTC
- Need political or senior management endorsement





# **Limitations/Challenges**

- Spending much of DTC's time on routine pharmacy activities
- Considering that DTC is pharmacy section's job
- Overload with other hospital responsibilities
- Existence of many committees
- High staff turnover /Loss of trained DTC members
- Irregularity of meetings
- Rely on individual DTC member's performance
- Poor documentation and reporting practices
- Sense of dependence on external assistance





## **Way Forward**

- Provide technical assistance and supportive supervision processes to establish and strengthen DTCs in facilities
- Engage DTCs more in the implementation of pharmaceutical care/clinical pharmacy services in hospital settings
- Work towards establishing national platforms to share assessment findings and best practices
  - Example: DTCs Network Regional and National Conferences
- Facilitate dissemination of DTC results
  - At scientific conferences, other relevant forums
- Engage DTCs in self clinical audit practices as per regulatory and insurance standards





### Thank you

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