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Cervical cancer screening and treatment in low-resource settings:
PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE FROM PATH

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Report of Follow-Up Visits to Health
Facilities Providing Visual Inspection with
Acetic Acid and Cryotherapy Services

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Report of Follow-Up Visits to Health Facilities Providing VIA and Cryotherapy Services

SECTION I: DETAILS OF SITE VISIT

Date of site visit:
Name of hospital/clinic visited:
Name of person performing the visit:

SECTION II: PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION OF SCREENING, TREATMENT, AND HEALTH PROMOTION

A. PROGRAM MONITORING	YES	NO	N/A
1. Does the facility offer VIA? a. If "Yes," how often is VIA offered each week?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the facility offer cryotherapy? a. If "Yes," how often is cryotherapy offered each week? <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 50%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Is cryotherapy offered immediately following a positive VIA result?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Review the clinic registers/log books and compare with monthly reports. Are there any inconsistencies in the registries or discrepancies in the monthly report tallies? a. If "Yes", please describe the inconsistency or discrepancy: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 50%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. On average, how many target-age women were examined per month over the past six months? (<i>Target age should be defined according to existing national guidelines.</i>) <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 50%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>			
5. On average, what is the VIA test positivity rate for the past 6 months? <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 50%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>			
6. What percentage of positive women received cryotherapy? <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 50%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>			
7. Is there active follow-up of the women that received cryotherapy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Is there active follow-up of the women that were referred for treatment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B. INFRASTRUCTURE, EQUIPMENT, AND STAFFING	YES	NO	N/A
1. Does the facility have a private area for the cervical cancer screening and treatment activities (VIA and cryotherapy)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the facility have an examination table for the screening activities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Is there a light source available for screening (e.g., flash light or goose-necked lamp)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Does the facility have enough specula (i.e., the number of available specula does not limit the ability to provide VIA and cryotherapy services on any given day)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Is there an adequate supply of acetic acid?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is there a cryotherapy device and refrigerant gas for cryotherapy treatment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Are there VIA- and cryotherapy-trained doctors available when needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Are there VIA-trained midwives available when needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. IEC ACTIVITIES	YES	NO	N/A
1. Are there health promotion materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. On average, how many educational sessions or other mobilization events were conducted in the community each month over the past six months? <input type="text"/>			
3. On average, how many educational sessions or other mobilization events were conducted at the hospital or health facility each month over the past six months? <input type="text"/>			
4. On average, how many women were reached through health promotion activities each month over the past six months? <input type="text"/>			
5. Do promoters use IEC material in the educational sessions and in other activities in the community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION III: SUMMARY OF EVALUATION OF COMPETENCY OF CLINICAL PROVIDERS AT HEALTH FACILITY

Directions: List all providers observed during visit in the table below.

Note:

- Competency in VIA is reached when provider has:
 - Screened 100 patients.
 - Satisfactorily completed each step in VIA clinical skills checklist.
 - Correctly responded to 85% visual assessment and patient management questions.
 - Correctly identified all invasive cancers on assessment quizzes.
- Competency in cryotherapy is reached when provider has:
 - Provided cryotherapy treatment to 5 patients.
 - Satisfactorily completed each step in cryotherapy clinical skills checklist.
 - Correctly identified 85% of precancerous and normal cases and decision-points.

	FOR ALL VIA PROVIDERS					FOR CRYOTHERAPY PROVIDERS ONLY		
Name of provider	Quiz: 85% of visual assessment and decision-points correctly identified (Y/N)	Quiz: Invasive cancers correctly identified (Y/N)	Total number of patients screened with VIA to date	Satisfactorily completed each step in VIA clinical skills checklist (Y/N)	Reached competency in VIA (Y/N)	Total number of patients treated with cryotherapy to date	Satisfactorily completed each step in cryotherapy clinical skills checklist (Y/N)	Reached competency in cryotherapy (Y/N)

SECTION IV: SUMMARY OF SUPERVISION VISIT FINDINGS

A. SUCCESSES

Please list:

B. CHALLENGES

Please list:

C. ACTIONS IDENTIFIED (WITH PERSON RESPONSIBLE AND DATE BY WHICH ACTION WILL BE COMPLETED)

Please list:

SECTION V: SUMMARY OF PROVIDER SUPERVISION

A. FOR EACH VIA PROVIDER, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

1. Provider name:
2. Number of patients screened with VIA to date:
3. Quiz results:
4. Percent of precancerous and normal cases correctly identified: _____
5. All invasive cancers correctly identified (Y/N):
6. Satisfactory completed each step in VIA clinical checklist (Y/N):

B. FOR EACH CRYOTHERAPY PROVIDER, ALSO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

1. Number of patients treated with cryotherapy to date:
2. Satisfactory completed each step in cryotherapy clinical checklist (Y/N):

C. CLINICAL CHECKLIST

Directions:

- Place “**Y**” in case box if step/task is performed satisfactorily, “**X**” if it is performed unsatisfactorily, or “**N/O**” if not observed.
 - **Satisfactory:** Performs the step or task according to the standard procedure or guidelines.
 - **Unsatisfactory:** Unable to perform the step or task according to the standard procedure or guidelines.
 - **Not observed:** Step, task, or skill not performed by participant during evaluation by trainer.

1. VIA counseling and clinical skills	CASES				
a. Pre-VIA counseling	1	2	3	4	5
1) Greets the woman respectfully and with kindness.					
2) Provides cervical cancer screening counseling. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides accurate information about cervical cancer prevention (what/where is cervix, how cervical cancer is detected, what causes it, emphasis on early detection, treatment options). • Uses effective counseling skills (actively listens, is supportive, helps woman make her own decision, keeps messages simple, answers questions directly). 					
3) If cancer screening counseling is not done, counsels patient prior to performing pelvic (VIA test) examination. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides information on what to expect during clinic visit (how pelvic exam/VIA is done, benefit and limitation of test). • Discusses woman’s needs and concerns/fears and helps woman with the decision to have a VIA test. • If woman does not want test, asks if she has any other questions about the VIA test. 					

a. Pre-VIA counseling (continued)	1	2	3	4	5
4) Determines that the woman has decided to have VIA done.					
5) Assesses woman's knowledge about VIA test.					
6) Responds to woman's needs and concerns about the VIA test.					
7) Describes the procedure and what to expect.					
8) Overall, was pre-VIA counseling performed satisfactorily?					
b. Pre-VIA activities	1	2	3	4	5
1) Checks that instruments, supplies, and light source are available and ready for use.					
2) Checks that the woman has emptied her bladder and washed and rinsed her genital area if necessary.					
3) Has the woman undress from the waist down. Helps her get on to examining table and drapes her.					
4) Washes hands thoroughly and dries them. Palpates the abdomen.					
5) Puts one pair of new examination or high-level disinfected surgical gloves on both hands. If available, puts a second glove on one hand.					
6) Arranges instruments and supplies on high-level disinfected tray or container.					
7) Overall, were pre-VIA activities performed satisfactorily?					
c. VIA activities	1	2	3	4	5
1) Inspects external genitalia and check urethral opening and Skene's and Bartholin's glands.					
2) Inserts speculum and fixes blades so that entire cervix can be seen clearly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If using outer glove, immerses this hand in 0.5% chlorine solution and removes the glove by turning it inside out. • If disposing of glove, places it in a leak-proof container or plastic bag. • If reusing surgical glove, submerges in 0.5% chlorine solution for 10 minutes for decontamination. 					
3) Moves light source so cervix can be seen clearly.					
4) Checks the cervix for cervicitis, ectropion, tumors, Nabothian cysts, or ulcers; and cleans cervix with cotton swab if necessary. Disposes of swab.					
5) Identifies the cervical os, SCJ, and transformation zone.					
6) Applies diluted acetic acid to cervix and waits 1 minute. Disposes of swab.					
7) Checks if cervix bleeds easily. Checks for any raised and thickened white plaques or acetowhite epithelium.					
8) Removes any remaining acetic acid from the cervix and vagina with a swab. Disposes of swab.					
9) Removes speculum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If VIA test is negative, places in 0.5% chlorine solution for 10 minutes for decontamination. • If VIA test is positive, places speculum on tray or container. 					

c. VIA activities (continued)	1	2	3	4	5
10) Performs the bimanual examination and rectovaginal examination (if indicated).					
11) Overall, was VIA performed satisfactorily?					
d. Post-VIA activities	1	2	3	4	5
1) Wipes light source with 0.5% chlorine solution or alcohol.					
2) Immerses both gloved hands in 0.5% chlorine solution. Removes gloves by turning inside out. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If disposing of gloves, places in leak-proof container or plastic bag. Gloves must be disposed of if rectovaginal examination is performed. • If reusing surgical gloves, submerges in 0.5% chlorine solution for 10 minutes for decontamination. 					
3) Washes hands thoroughly and dries them.					
4) If VIA test negative, has the woman get dressed.					
5) Discusses the results of VIA test and pelvic examination with woman and answers any questions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If VIA test is negative, tells woman when to return for repeat VIA testing. • If VIA test is positive or cancer suspected, discusses recommended next steps. After counseling, provides treatment or refers. 					
6) Records the VIA test results and other findings in woman's record. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents cervical lesion findings on cervical map. • If required, documents referral and reason for referral. • If treatment/referral is refused at time of screening, documents reason for delaying/refusing treatment/referral. • Records follow-up plans. 					
7) Overall, were post-VIA activities performed satisfactorily?					
e. Post-VIA counseling	1	2	3	4	5
1) Assures woman that she can return for advice or medical attention at any time.					
2) Provides follow-up instructions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If VIA test is negative: discusses what results of VIA test means, advises her to return for repeat test per program policy, and assures her that she can return to the same clinic to receive advice or medical attention. • If VIA test is positive or cancer suspected: discusses what result of the VIA test means. • If not eligible for cryotherapy (extra-large lesion/suspects cancer): counsels on management options or referral, encourages to ask questions, and discusses condition • Gives woman time to decide; asks if she will give her consent for treatment. 					
3) Overall, was post-VIA counseling performed satisfactorily?					

2. Cryotherapy counseling and clinical skills	CASES				
a. Pre-cryotherapy counseling	1	2	3	4	5
1) Explains why the treatment is recommended and describes the procedure.					
2) Checks that if pregnant, is less than 20 weeks.					
3) Tells her about side effects to expect and alternatives to cryotherapy.					
4) Asks the woman for her consent for treatment.					
5) Overall, was pre-cryotherapy counseling performed satisfactorily?					
b. Pre-cryotherapy activities	1	2	3	4	5
1) Checks that instruments, supplies, and light source are available and ready to use.					
2) Checks that cryotherapy instrument and gas (CO ₂) are ready to use.					
3) Tells the woman what is going to be done and encourages her to ask questions.					
4) Checks that woman recently (30 minutes) has emptied her bladder, helps her onto examining table, and drapes her.					
5) Washes hands thoroughly and dries them.					
6) Puts one pair of new examination or high-level disinfected surgical gloves on both hands. If available, puts a second glove on one hand.					
7) Overall, were pre-cryotherapy activities performed satisfactorily?					
c. Cryotherapy activities	1	2	3	4	5
1) Inserts speculum and fixes blades so that entire cervix can be seen clearly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If using outer glove, removes it from left hand by turning inside out. • If disposing of glove, places in leak-proof container or plastic bag. • If reusing surgical glove, submerges in 0.5% chlorine solution for 10 minutes for decontamination. 					
2) Moves light source so cervix can be seen clearly.					
3) Cleans cervix with swab and identifies the cervical os, SCJ, and site and size of lesion (applies dilute acetic acid if necessary). Disposes of swab.					
4) Points probe at ceiling. Presses freeze button for 1 second and then defrosts button for 1 second. Screws cryotip with sleeve onto end of probe.					
5) Applies the cryotip to cervix. Freezes cervix for 3 minutes. Waits for tip to release from cervix.					
6) Waits 5 minutes. Repeats procedure (step 5). Closes master cylinder valve.					
7) Inspects cervix to ensure that a hard, white, frozen ice ball is present.					
8) Inspects cervix for bleeding and, if needed, applies pressure with clean cotton swab. Disposes of swab.					

c. Cryotherapy activities (continued)	1	2	3	4	5
9) Removes speculum and places it in 0.5% chlorine solution for 10 minutes for decontamination.					
10) Overall, was cryotherapy performed satisfactorily?					
d. Post-cryotherapy activities	1	2	3	4	5
1) Wipes light source with 0.5% chlorine solution or alcohol.					
2) Immerses both gloved hands in 0.5% chlorine solution. Removes gloves by turning inside out. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If disposing of gloves, places in leak-proof container or plastic bag. • If reusing surgical gloves, submerges in 0.5% chlorine solution for 10 minutes for decontamination. 					
3) Washes hands thoroughly and dries them.					
4) Checks to be sure woman is not having excessive cramping before helping her sit up, get down from table, and get dressed.					
5) Advises woman about post-treatment care and follow-up instructions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedules follow-up visit 					
6) Records the treatment and follow-up plan in woman's record.					
7) Has the woman wait at the clinic for at least 15 minutes before sending home.					
8) Overall, were post-cryotherapy activities performed satisfactorily?					
e. Post-cryotherapy counseling	1	2	3	4	5
1) Provides instructions for self-care at home (including recommendation for abstinence for 1 month). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides instruction for using pads and condom. • Provides 2-month condom supply. • Asks women to repeat instructions. 					
2) Discusses what to do if woman experiences any problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If woman has any serious warning signs (fever for more than 2 days; severe lower abdominal pain associated with fever; bleeding for more than 2 days; bleeding with clots), woman should be instructed that a clinic visit is required as soon as possible. 					
3) Overall, was post-cryotherapy counseling performed satisfactorily?					