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Testing a FP/MNCH Integration Model: Postpartum Systematic Screening in Northern Nigeria

By

Lydia Airede, Nasir Bashir, Shittu Abdu-Aguye, Elaine Charurat, and Emmanuel Otolorin

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MCHIP Nigeria Program

- Program focus: **EmONC, FANC, postpartum care and FP using a household-to-hospital continuum of care approach**
- Area profile:
 - **Modern contraceptive prevalence rate 3% (NDHS 2008)**
 - **Unmet need for FP 21%**



Systematic Screening: A USAID Best Practice

- Use a standardized instrument to identify each client's needs for additional reproductive services
- If available at the time, offer services during the same visit or offer future appointment/referral for those services that cannot be provided immediately
- Tested and proven outcomes in different settings

Source: Vernon, Ricardo, James R. Foreit, and Emma Ottolenghi. 2006. "Adding Systematic Screening to Your Program: A Manual" FRONTIERS Manual. Washington, DC: Population Council

Postpartum Systematic Screening

ACCESS-FP Nigeria Systematic Screening Instrument (Modified from FRONTIERS)

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| Client's name or ID: | | Today's Date: | | Provider Name: | |
| How old are you? Only administer checklist only if woman is between 15-49. If she is not between 15-49, thank her and terminate interview. | | How old is your youngest child? <input type="checkbox"/> < 6 weeks old <input type="checkbox"/> < 6 months old <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months - 2 yrs <input type="checkbox"/> > 2 yrs old | | | |
| Screening questions (be sure to include reason for visit in required services) | | Follow-up instruction or question | | Discuss and circle requested service | Service Outcome |
| What is the reason for today's visit? | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral | |
| <i>If youngest child is less than 6 weeks old, start with question 1; if youngest child is older than 6 weeks old, start with question 2.</i> | | | | | |
| 1. Are you attending postnatal care (PNC) services? <i>No</i> → <i>Yes</i> : go to 3 | | | | PNC and go to 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral |
| 2. Are you pregnant? <i>Yes</i> → <i>No</i> : go to 3 | | Are you attending ANC services? <i>No or don't know</i> → <i>Yes</i> : go to 8 | | ANC and go to 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral |
| 3. Are you trying to get pregnant? <i>No</i> → <i>Yes</i> : a) youngest child < 6 months, go to 6 b) youngest child 6 months - 2 yrs, go to 6 c) youngest child > 2 years old, go to 8 | | Are you using a contraceptive method? <i>No</i> : a) youngest child < 6 months, go to 4 b) youngest child 6 months - 2 yrs, go to 5 c) youngest child > 2 years old, go to 5 <i>Yes</i> : What method? _____, go to 7 | | | |
| 4. Have you been exclusive breastfeeding your youngest child since he or she was born? <i>Yes</i> → <i>No</i> : go to 5 | | Has your menses returned? <i>No or don't know</i> → <i>Yes</i> : go to 5 | | LAM counseling & transition and go to 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral |
| 5. <i>Provider counsel on the importance of FP methods and ask:</i> Would you be interested in getting a contraceptive method? <i>Yes</i> → <i>No</i> : go to 8 | | | | Family planning and go to 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral |
| 6. <i>Provider counsel on the importance of postpartum family planning including healthy timing and spacing of pregnancy and ask:</i> Would you be interested in getting a contraceptive method? <i>Yes</i> : a) youngest child < 6 months, go to 4 b) youngest child ≥ 6 months → <i>No</i> : go to 8 | | | | Family planning and go to 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral |
| 7. Are you happy with your contraceptive method? <i>No</i> → <i>Yes</i> : go to 8 | | Would you like to use another contraceptive method? <i>Yes</i> → <i>No</i> : go to 8 | | Family planning and go to 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral |
| 8. Have all your children under 5 been fully vaccinated/immunized? <i>No or don't know</i> → <i>Yes</i> : go to 9 | | Would you like to schedule immunization for your child (ren)? <i>Yes</i> → <i>No</i> : go to 9 | | Child immunization and go to 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral |
| 9. Is there any other service you would like to receive today, or would like to be referred for? <i>Yes</i> → <i>No</i> : end of screening | | List service(s): | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Provided <input type="checkbox"/> Referral |
| Observations: | | | | | Observations: |
| After completing the screening, present to form to the service provider or put it in the designated folder. | | | | | |

Evaluation of Postpartum Systematic Screening

- **Purpose:** to determine the effectiveness of the intervention as a means to increase service use
- **Design:** pre/post
- **Duration:** three months (October – December 2009)
- **Locations:** immunization, newborn care and pediatric/sick baby units in selected urban sites

Data Collection Methods

- **Provider-client interaction through observation**
- **Client exit interviews**
- **Provider interview***
- **Service statistics**
- **Referral tracking**



*: Post only.

Baseline Observations

- Ongoing MNH/FP integration
- High volume in immunization and pediatric units
- Individualized care did not exist
- Women spent hours waiting for services
- Women expressed interest in FP



Client Profile

| | Pre (n=72) | Post (n=71) |
|--|---|---|
| Reason for the visit | 6% newborn care 44% immunization 50% sick baby | 6% newborn 45% immunization 48% sick baby |
| Distance to the facility | 28% less than 30 min 49% between 30-60 min 21% more than 1 hour | 27% less than 30 min 45% between 30-60 min 27% more than 1 hour |
| Plan to get other service(s) before seeing a provider | 13% Yes 87% No | 7% Yes 93% No |
| Age | 26 \pm 5.7 (18-45) | 25 \pm 5.5 (17-40) |
| Education | 38% no education 24% primary 29% secondary 11% tertiary | 24% no education 18% primary 44% secondary 14.1% tertiary |
| # of pregnancies | 4 \pm 2.3 (1-10) | 4 \pm 2.6(1-9) |
| # of living children | 4 \pm 2.2 (1-9) | 3 \pm 2.3 (1-0) |

Provider Profile

| | Attended PPSS training (n=11) | Did not attend PPSS training (n=15) |
|--|--|--|
| Type of professional | 37% Nurse/midwife 46% CHEW 18% Medical officer | 47% Nurse/midwife 27% CHEW 20% Medical officer 7% Other |
| Length of professional experience (in years) | 13 ±10.1(2-27) | 9 ±6.7(2-24) |
| Length of working at current facility (in years) | 3 ±3.4 (1-12) | 4 ±4.0 (0-14) |
| Providing FP services on a regular basis | 100% No | 7% Yes 93% No |

Addressing Unmet Need of Family Planning (Client Exit Interviews)

- The majority of women (**90% vs. 86%, pre and post**) wanted to wait before getting pregnant again or did not want to any more children

Among those with a need for FP

| | Pre-intervention | Post-intervention |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| % of women with need for FP/PPFP counselled* | 16 | 68 |
| % of women referred for FP services* | 5 | 41 |

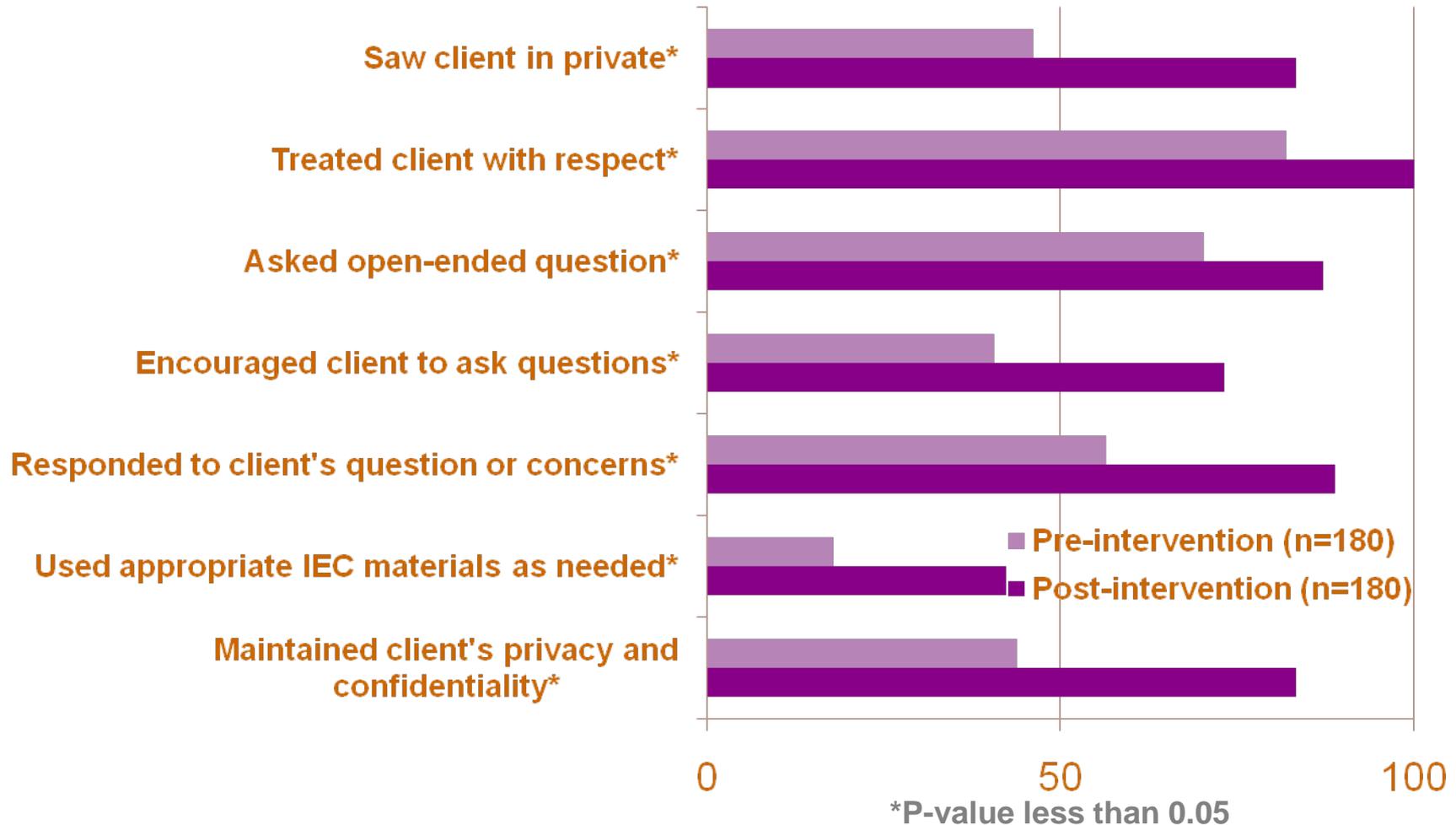
- * $P < 0.05$
- However, only 15% of women said they would go for referrals on the same day for the post-intervention group

Increased Screening for Other Services (Client Exit Interviews)

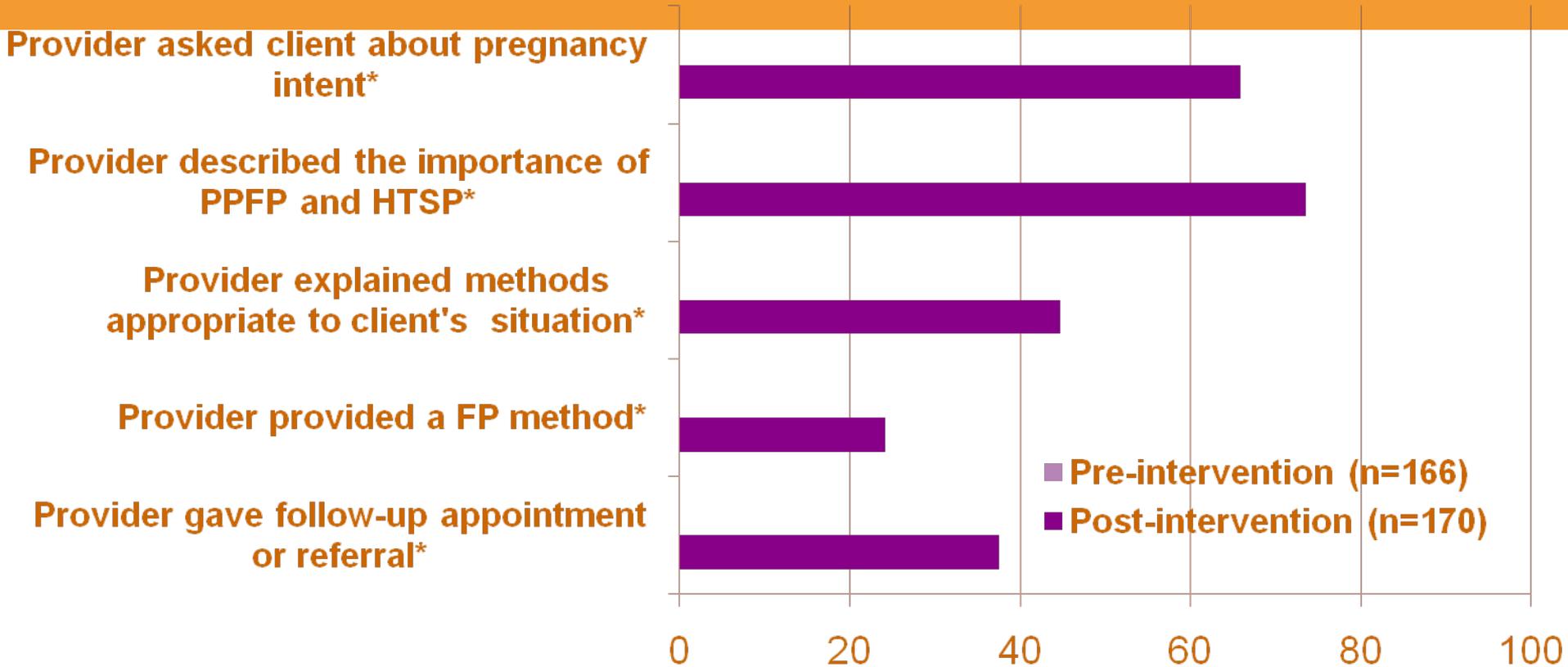
| | Pre | Post |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Postnatal care (for women with children under 6 weeks old)* | 13% (3/23) | 57% (16/28) |
| Antenatal care (for pregnant women) | 17% (1/6) | Nil (0/2) |
| Immunization (for women with children under 5 but not fully immunized)* | 47% (7/15) | 89% (8/9) |

*P-value less than 0.05

General Interactions (Provider/Client Observations)



Postpartum Family Planning (Provider/Client Observations)



NO PFP topic was addressed at the Pre-Intervention stage

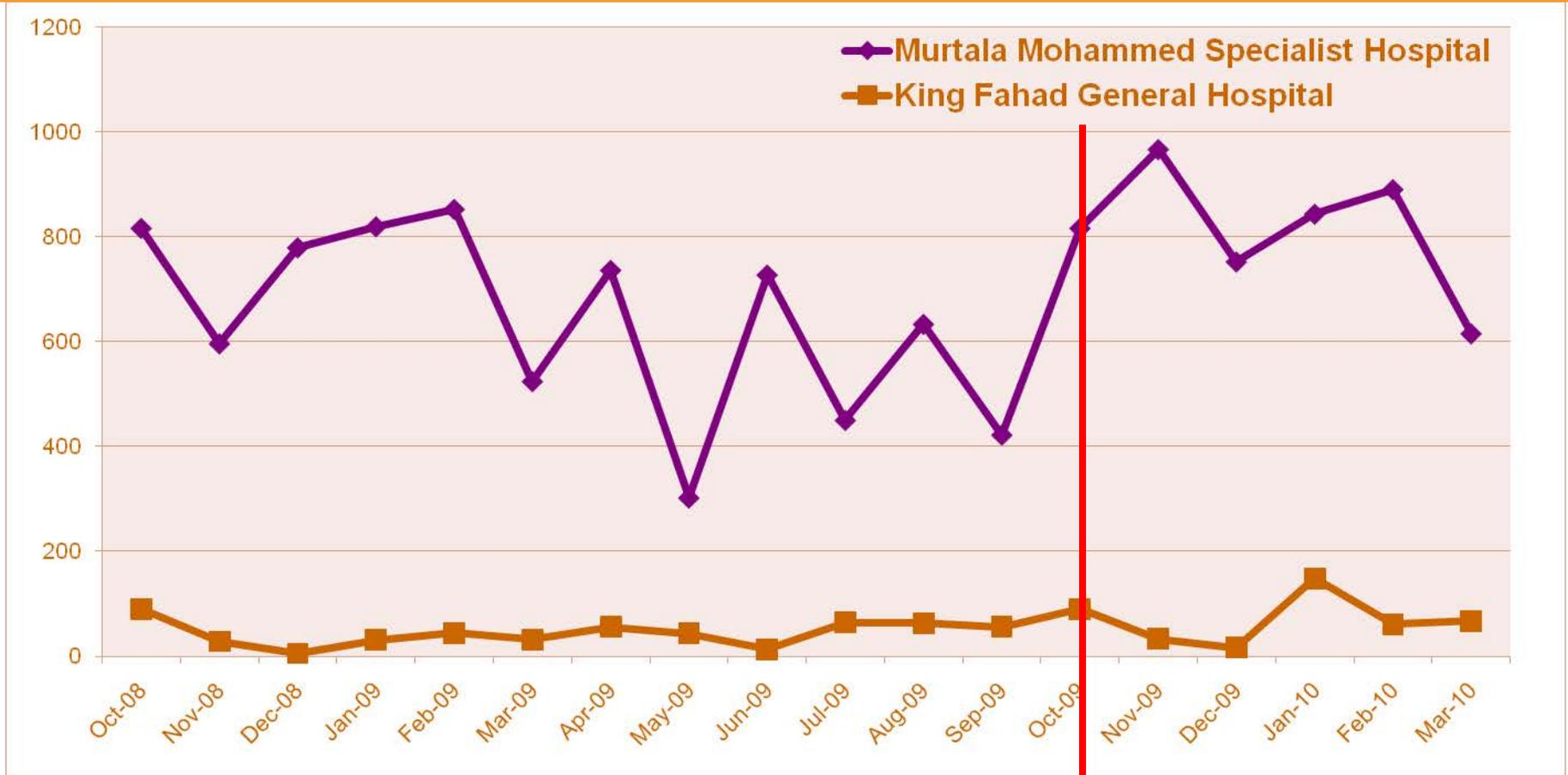
*P-value less than 0.05

Provider's Knowledge (Provider Interviews)

- With PPSS training, providers were more likely to know at least three FP methods which are suitable for postpartum women*: **73% vs. 27%** (trained vs. non-trained)
- With PPSS training, providers were more likely to counsel pregnant or postpartum women on family planning*: **100% vs. 13%** (trained vs. non-trained)

*P-value less than 0.05

Couple Years of Protection (Service Statistics)



**PPSS intervention
started in Oct-09**

Study Limitations

- **Short period of implementation**
- **Representativeness of selected sites**
- **Convenience sampling**
- **Potential interviewee bias**

Key Findings

- **Postpartum systematic screening was effective in identifying need and improving quality of services**
- **FP counseling and referrals increased dramatically but not actual service use**
- **Minimum additional resource was required**
- **No negative effect was observed in other services**

Priority Next Steps

- **Further examine potential for FP/immunization integration**
- **Examine means of providing FP counseling and services at immunization clinics**
- **Streamline screening procedure through utilizing new technology**
- **Review service flow for effectiveness and efficiency**
- **Establish feedback mechanism to minimize lost of referrals or follow up**

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