

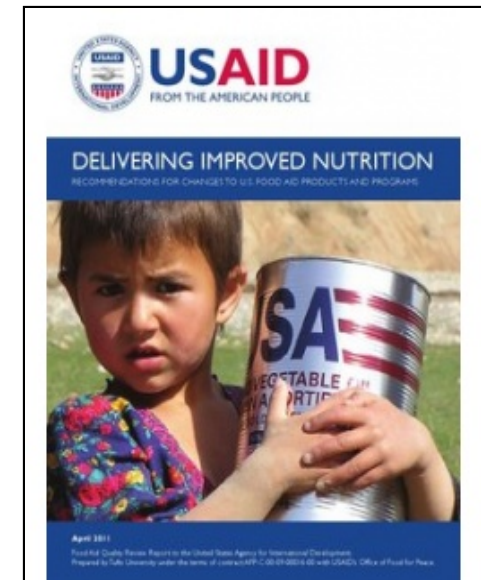
Food Aid Quality Review

REFINE: Research Engagement on Food Innovation for Nutritional Effectiveness

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

The Food Aid Quality Review (FAQR)

- Tufts University research supported by USAID
- FAQR Phase I: Assessing the quality of Title II food aid products in meeting the nutritional needs of beneficiaries
 - April 2009 – September 2011
 - *Delivering Improved Nutrition: Recommendations for Changes to U.S. Food Aid Products and Programs*
- FAQR Phase II: Implement recommendation
 - October 2011 – Present



FAQR Phase II Activities

Development and testing of new or modified nutritionally enhanced food aid commodities

Products

Uses of food aid products to meet nutritional goals in the context of Title II development programs:
Four field studies

Programs

Process

Safety, quality assurance in the supply chain, harmonization of food aid processes and specifications among donor agencies, and coordination among agencies within USG

Research Engagement on Food Innovation for Nutritional Effectiveness (REFINE)

- What is REFINE?
 - Web-based repository of existing literature and ongoing research concerning food aid interventions
 - Emergency & development contexts
 - Malnutrition outcomes
- REFINE's aim to:
 - take stock of the empirical knowledge base
 - increase basic accessibility to and awareness of food interventions in the research community
 - facilitate the exchange of knowledge among researchers and policy-makers
 - encourage rigorous operational and policy-relevant research
 - promote a focus for future research investments that address priority research gaps

REFINE Database & Gap Identification

- Monthly database updates based on desk review
 - Standardized search based on terms frequently used in study text
 - New studies from research registries
 - ClinicalTrials.gov
 - BioMed Central's ISRCTN registry
 - WHO's International Clinical Trials Registry Platform
 - Newly published literature on organizations' sites and Google scholar
 - Monthly updates added to REFINE website
 - Updates posted on Twitter: @REFINEnutrition
- Research gaps identified from consultations with stakeholders, review of literature, and systematic analysis of high-level policy guidance documents

Research Gaps: What Information Are We Missing?

1. What is the ideal composition of supplementary foods for the prevention and treatment of MAM?
2. Which supplementary foods for preventing and treating MAM are most acceptable to recipients?
3. How can supplementary foods best be used for the management of MAM?
4. What is the efficacy of different supplementary food compositions and food interventions?
5. What is the effectiveness of different supplementary food compositions and food interventions?
6. What is the cost effectiveness of different supplementary food compositions and food interventions?
7. What products and programming innovations effectively prevent and treat malnutrition?
8. In what ways can research communication be improved to facilitate optimal prevention and treatment of malnutrition?

REFINEnutrition.org: MNP Interventions

- Ongoing studies using MNP in 14 countries
- MNP studies address 6 of the 8 identified research gaps

Research Gap		# of studies
1	What is the ideal composition of supplementary foods?	9
2	Which supplementary foods are most acceptable to recipients?	1
3	How can supplementary foods best be used?	6
4	What is the efficacy of different supplementary food compositions?	-
5	What is the effectiveness of different supplementary food compositions ?	9
6	What is the cost effectiveness of supplementary food compositions?	1
7	What products and programming innovations are effective?	3
8	How can research communication be improved?	-

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