Highlights from the SQ-LNS meeting
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EVIDENCE AND PROGRAMMATIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE USE OF SQ-LNS
October 14–16, 2015 | Washington, DC
Motivation

• Research on efficacy and effectiveness of SQ-LNS for the prevention of malnutrition underway

• WHO guidelines for the use of LNS under development, expected 2016

• Programs adopting and implementing SQ-LNS as an intervention for the prevention of malnutrition
Typical Nutrient content of SQ-LNS
[20 g/d; 118 kcal/d]

SQ-LNS-Child:
• Includes 22 vitamins & minerals
  o ~1 RDA for most micronutrients except Fe (6 mg) & Zn (8 mg)
  o Macrominerals included (Ca, P, K, Mg)
• Essential fatty acids: 4.5 g linoleic acid; 0.6 g ALA
• Protein: 2.6 g

SQ-LNS-P&L:
• Includes 22 vitamins & minerals; levels based on recent multiple micronutrient trials during pregnancy
• Iron content = 20 mg
• Essential fatty acids: 4.6 g linoleic acid; 0.6 g ALA
• Protein: 2.6 g
Meeting objectives

• To share the efficacy and effectiveness evidence available on the use of SQ-LNS for the prevention of malnutrition in programmatic settings

• To discuss and summarize experiences on key operational topics in the use of SQ-LNS for the prevention of malnutrition including challenges and lessons learned

• To outline the key operational conditions needed to roll-out programs using SQ-LNS

• To identify an implementation research agenda
Meeting participants
Meeting agenda

• Day 1 am: efficacy and effectiveness evidence
• Day 1 pm & Day 2: experiences, challenges, lessons learned
• Day 3 am: programmatic considerations, implementation research agenda
Topic areas

• SBCC related to SQ-LNS:
  • Counseling on intake mode and frequency
  • Messaging and counseling around potential undesirable effects of LNS
  • Packaging: type, size, label messages and claims, design, etc.
  • Integration into IYCF programs and multi-sectoral programs: use as incentives for participation in other activities, effect on breastmilk intake, dietary diversity and intake of other foods

• Use of SQ-LNS (women and children):
  • Acceptability in different contexts, variations in flavor and nutrient composition to address acceptability
  • Adherence to recommended consumption, enhancers/barriers to adherence, measurement of adherence
  • Mode of consumption: alone, with food- what seems to work better and why
  • Sharing with others (household members, neighbors, etc.) and selling: why is it happening and what are the consequences
Topic areas

• Economics of SQ-LNS:
  • Production: local production, cost, quality control, inspection, etc.
  • Market models and distribution channels: private sector approaches, government financing
  • Demand: change over time, willingness to pay

• Shipping, transporting and other logistics of SQ-LNS:
  • Issues around the classification of SQ-LNS in shipping and customs documents
  • Transportation during distribution (the “last mile”)
  • Storage, shelf-life
  • Disposal of packaging after use
List of programmatic considerations

- Situation assessment: potential to benefit, potential to respond
- SBCC considerations
- Use of SQ-LNS
- Programming at scale
- Economics
- Logistics
- Others (CHW load, product positioning)
Research agenda

• Formulation
• Delivery
• Adherence
• Impact
• Unintended consequences
• Demand
• Logistics
Next steps

• Meeting highlights
• Meeting report

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• Support to USAID in translating report into guidance
Thank you

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