

Evaluating the Use of Mobile Phone-based Job
Aids by Community Health Workers to
Counsel on Family Planning and Reproductive
Health in Tanzania









Study Background





Study Objectives

To determine whether the use of a mobile phone-based job aid by community health workers is a feasible, efficient, and effective tool for providing counseling for family planning services.



Is it feasible for CHWs to use this tool?



Does it lead to efficiency gains?



Is it effective to improve outcomes?



Study Measures

FEASIBILITY

- Supervisor and CHW acceptability
- Client perspectives

EFFICIENCY

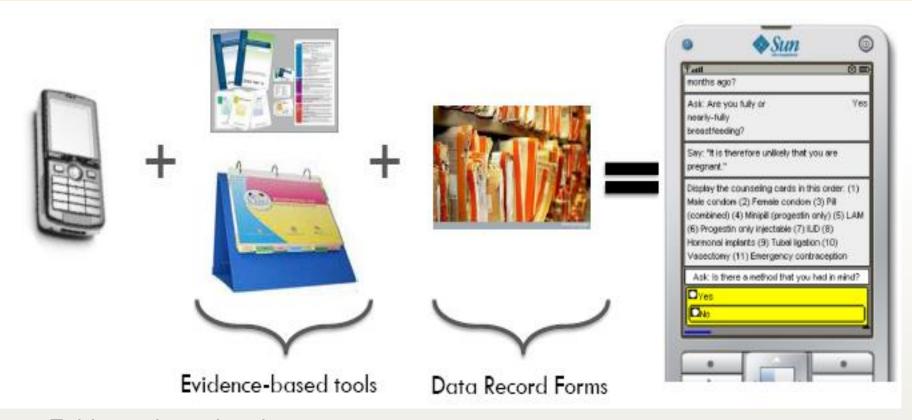
- Time taken for screening, counselling and data entry
- Timely, complete reports submitted by CHWs
- Costs

EFFECTIVENESS

- Completion of follow-up visits among clients
- Continued FP use by clients



Program Overview



- Evidence-based tools
 - Balanced Counseling Strategy Plus
 - WHO FP Decision-Making Toolkit
 - Pregnancy Checklist



Program Overview

Integrated Algorithm

- Counsel, Screen, Provide, Refer, & Follow-up
- FP, HIV, and STIs services

Data Forms

Records & Submits Client Data

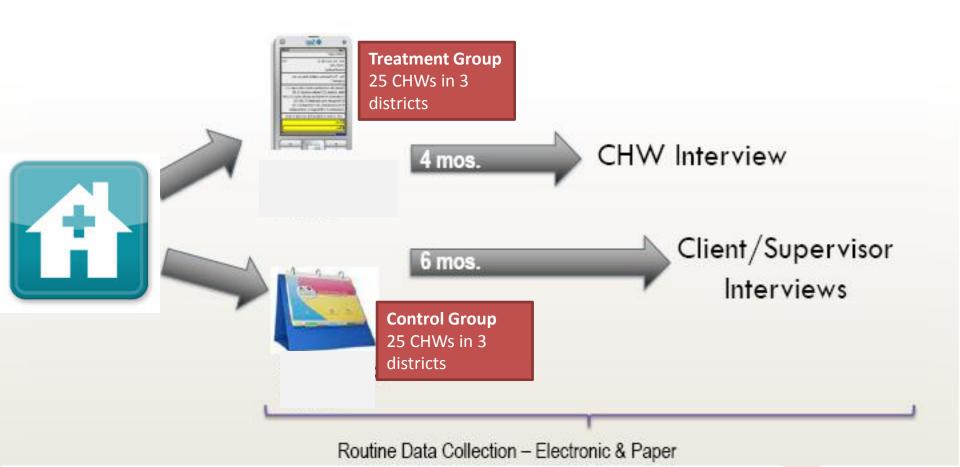
Reminder system

 Management tool for CHWs and supervisors



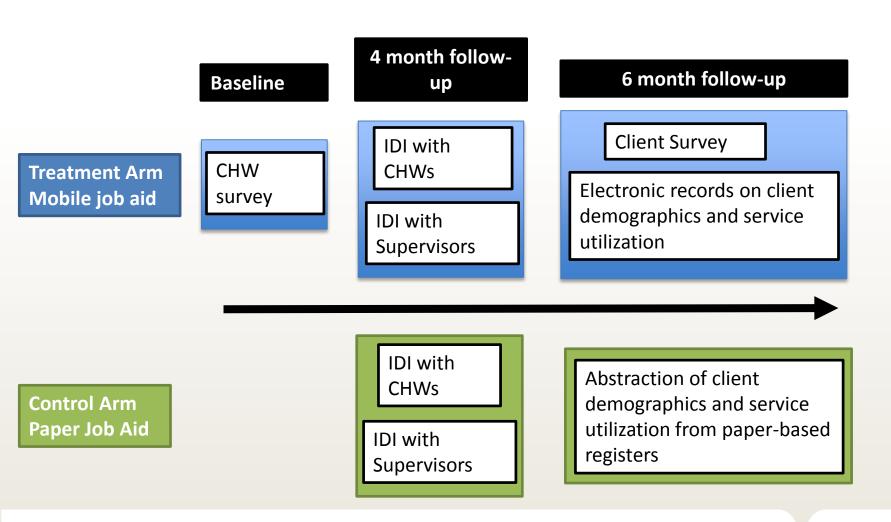
Study Design

Post-test only control group design





Survey Tools and Data Sources





Sample size

Ward	Supervisors	CHWs	Family planning clients
Ukonga	1	14	260
Chanika Buyuni	1	5	120
Chanika	1	5	100
Majohe Chanika	1	9	180
Kipawa	1	9	200
Pugu	1	14	260
TOTAL	6	56	1,120

- Each CHW will enroll about 20 new clients
- Sample powered at >80% to detect a 20% increase in complete follow-up visits using mobile-based job aid.



Study limitations

Lack of pre-test data on client demographics and service utilization

Small number of facilities randomized



Challenges in study design/data collection

Poor internet connectivity

Functionality of phones- short battery life

- Backend data: Though data collection is simplified, making sense of electronic data was time-consuming
- Paper-based data for comparison group was limited to using pre-existing MOHSW data instruments

