<u>Module 3: Evidence based approaches to health service provision to adolescents - Adolescent</u> health and development with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health - Assignment

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My perception of the reality in D.R. Congo

The reality in my country is not very different from what is described in slides 10 to 13. Indeed, many health workers and young people are not aware that the emergency contraception exists. They are also limited in terms of "knowledge" of different methods that can be used and are influenced by religion. Some methods are considered as being an abortion (IUD for example). Other concern is the lack of appropriate constellation of services across the country. These factors reduce accessibility.

The WHO's approach

The WHO's approach in improving the quality and expanding the coverage of health services for adolescents has potential utility. This approach is doable in DRC. Indeed, we have two National Programmes (for Reproductive Health and for Adolescents' Health) which can help (The M.O.H) in developing standards of the quality of health service provision to adolescents. These standards can be implemented in different public health facilities.

South African case study

This exciting document illustrates the fact that provision and expanding health services for adolescents is feasible. The South African experience is given in details. From designing of National Adolescent-Friendly Clinic Initiative based on quality improvement approach (in international and national contexts of adolescent health crisis), developing of materials, piloting the intervention and implementing; to scaling-up the programme. These details can help other health workers/programmers to adapt the process to their situation. The report highlights the fact that the success requires the involvement of many stakeholders (policy makers at all levels, clinic staff, young people, community and donors) in a concerted manner.

Assignment documents

WHO Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development. Improving the
quality and expanding the coverage of health services for adolescents. WHO's approach.
Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010
Sep 11; Geneva.

- 2. WHO Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development. The evidence base for our approach to improve the quality and expand the coverage of health services for adolescents. Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 11; Geneva.
- 3. WHO. Evolution of the national adolescent-friendly clinic initiative in South Africa. Geneva: WHO; 2009.