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**EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION AS AN ENTRY POINT TO INTEGRATING
COMPREHENSIVE SRH SERVICES IN CONFLICT SETTINGS;
THE EXPERIENCES OF MARIE STOPES IN KENYA.**

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Background

- Extreme violence resulting from disputed election results plunged Kenya into turmoil in Q1 2008, violence including sexual violence used widely as tools to terrorize 'enemy' communities.
- FIDA and UN reports indicate 1,500 persons killed, 1,000,000 persons displaced and over 3,000 women raped in the turmoil; Girls forced to trade sex for food, shelter and protection.
- MSK with financial support from UNFPA set up care centers in 7 IDP camps in Nairobi, Limuru, Nakuru and Kisumu.
- EC used as an entry point to reaching victims of sexual violence to integrate comprehensive SRH services.

Methodology

- Care centers set up in 7 of the IDP camps in Nairobi, Limuru, Nakuru and Kisumu between Jan-mar, 2008.
- PEV victims/ survivors mobilized, educated, counseled on sexual violence and emergency health services.
- Individual counseling, psychosocial support, SRH education and services provided including physical examinations and treatment.
- Referrals made to MoH facilities for continuum care of victims of sexual violence.

Results

- 12,073 persons given health education (10,070 f & c; 2,003 m).
- 2,143 victims/ survivors counseled and psychosocially supported (1,790 f; 353 m).
- 15 victims/ survivors treated for STI and referred (10 f; 5 m).
- 12,000 condoms distributed.
- 8 delivery services provided to victims/ survivors (f).
- 10 implants provided (f).
- 103 females provided with various FP services.
- 3,211 victims/ survivors given medical treatment (2,560 f & c; 651 m).
- 90 victims/ survivors referred to MoH (67 f; 23 m).

Conclusions

- EC provision in conflict settings opens a strategic opportunity to comprehensively respond to sexual violence including services integration e.g. SV/ FP/ STI/ safe motherhood/ adolescent SRH.
- Addressing sexual and gender violence is essential to the health and well being of women in conflict settings.
- Availing EC to victims/ survivors; providing information/ education on EC helps increase acceptance and uptake of EC.
- Involvement of local administration and security forces is critical to successful SV response and prevention strategies in conflict settings.

Thank You all!

