



VALUE FOR MONEY CASE STUDY

Savings for everyone as quality drugs boosts patronage of health facilities

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Pharmacist Binta Sadauki dispensing drugs to Abasiya Mansur, a client at Gwargwarwa PHC, Kano

Abasiya Mansur is one of many clients who get drugs at the Gwargwarwa Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Kano State. The PHC did not have a regular supply of drugs until 2009, when the Partnership for Transforming Health Systems Phase Two (PATHS2) programme helped it establish a Drug Revolving Fund (DRF).

"I heard that drugs are now available here, and I am very happy that each time I come here I am always able to get drugs. The drugs are cheaper compared to what is sold elsewhere," says Abasiya.

Evidence shows that the availability of drugs helps families decide between visiting a PHC and seeking traditional alternatives.

The 2008 Nigeria Demographic Health Survey shows that 74.7 percent of women in Kano State said the lack of drugs was a serious problem in getting health care, but the drug situation in Kano State is changing. "For the past two years we have not experienced stock-outs. Some people come from other hospitals to buy drugs because they say it is cheaper here and the drugs are genuine," says Gwargwarwa Pharmacist Binta Sadauki.

To sustain the gains, PATHS2 strengthens the capacity of 90 in-state team (IST) members to mentor and monitor the DRF schemes in Kano State, while the State Ministry of Health covers field monitoring costs. Working with the IST saves PATHS2 26.4 million naira (£105,600) annually on consultant costs. On their own, the IST trained 898 service providers and local health committee members on DRF operations, and rolled out DRFs in 180 additional PHCs.

With this improved capacity, drug availability in PHCs increased from 7.2 percent at baseline in 2009 to 86.25 percent in July 2013. Secondary Health Centres also improved their drug availability, from 43.1 percent at baseline to 86.67 percent in July 2013.

Five centres piloting a deferral and exemption scheme provided essential drugs free of cost to 400 people who were unable to afford them. Meanwhile, the number of clients patronising the DRF schemes increased by 48 percent from 1,092,611 in 2012 to 1,615,468 in 2013. This indicates a corresponding increase in the number of

people getting health care services in Kano State.

Expectedly, the Drugs and Medical Consumables Supply Agency (DMCSA) increased its annual turnover from 500 million naira (£2M) in 2011 to 600 million naira (£2.4M) in 2012 and 900 million naira (£3.6M) by July 2013.

“PATHS2 has been our biggest partner. With the support of PATHS2 we were able to conduct a bidding exercise for the first time in 2012, and this helped save 31 million naira (£124,000) compared with the previous year,” says former DMCSA Managing Director, Mr Tijjani Nasidi.

With combined efforts in Kano State, households, especially in rural communities, are saving £97 for every £1 investment by PATHS2.

PATHS2 is a six-year DFID-funded programme focused on improving the planning, financing and delivery of sustainable, replicable, pro-poor services for improved health outcomes for women and children in Nigeria. Over the past four years, PATHS2 has been working



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closely with the federal and the five state governments to strengthen health systems in order to improve health care delivery.

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The Partnership for Transforming Health Systems Phase Two (PATHS2) is a six-year development initiative that aims to ensure Nigeria achieves important health-related Millennium Development Goals.

Funded by UKaid from the Department for International Development, PATHS2 is working in partnership with the Government of Nigeria and other stakeholders to improve the planning, financing, and delivery of sustainable health services for those most in need. In addition to its work at the federal level, the PATHS2 programme is implemented in the five states of Enugu, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, and Lagos. PATHS2 follows the successful PATHS programme, which was implemented from 2002 to 2008.

PATHS2 is managed by Abt Associates, in association with Options, Mannion Daniels, and the Axios Foundation.

