Clean Delivery Kit: A job aid

Linda Bruce, PATH
What are Delivery Kits?

Delivery kits are pre-packaged, single-use, disposable kits that contain essential items for conducting a clean delivery.
WHO’s Six Principles of Cleanliness

- Clean hands
- Clean delivery surface
- Clean perineum
- Clean cord cutting instrument
- Clean cord ties
- Clean cord care of the newborn baby
Delivery Kit Job Aids

Essential kit contents:
- Plastic Sheet
- Soap
- Clean, two-sided razor blade
- Cutting surface
- Cord ties
- Pictorial instructions
Immediate Benefits of a Delivery Kit

- Essential items are available at delivery.
- Convenient, prepackaged kit.
- New, clean, and adequate supplies.
- Access to clean supplies reduces risk of using unclean items.
- Items in the kit and pictorial instructions remind user of clean delivery steps.
Delivery Kit Impact

1998 PATH quantitative study in Nepal:

- Use of clean delivery kit reduces simple cord infection compared to deliveries using unclean instruments.
- Clean delivery kits can improve clean cutting of the umbilical cord—a major step. However, substances applied to the cord after cutting affects cord infection.
Delivery Kit Impact (cont.)

Major behavioral impact in Nepal study:

- Increase in hand washing and use of soap among kit users.
- Untrained TBAs: kit users washed their hands more frequently than non kit users.
- Kit used for its convenience.
- Pictorial instructions essential to show correct use of kit components.
- Increased awareness of clean delivery practices, apart from kit use.
Key Issues in Implementing Delivery Kit Projects

- Delivery kits are just one element of a larger clean delivery program intervention.
- **Distribution**: Use a variety of distribution systems.
- **TT Links**: Link clean delivery practices with tetanus toxoid immunization campaigns.
Community Involvement

Community involvement in the development, distribution, and use of delivery kits should be achieved through advocacy by government agencies and NGOs.