Session 10 Coaching

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Identify a strategy for managing and coaching the teams.
- Discuss the need to plan, develop, and conduct training for coaches.

Coaching

Role of the coach

Coaching skills = Facilitative supervision

Coaching strategy

What is the role of the coach in an improvement collaborative?

Who do they coach?

What are their responsibilities?

Roles of QI Coach

- Facilitator of team work
 - Help team implement QI work, especially initially
 - Help problem-solve
- QI Expert
 - Just-in-time training on QI (eg. measuring indicators, PDSA, QI tools)
 - Assess team functionality/progress, data validity for regional/national planning
- Other
 - May be trainer at Learning Sessions
 - May be clinical content expert

Coach's Responsibilities

- Provide motivation, guidance, feedback
- Promote/teach QI principles
- Assess team progress and help problem solve
- Strengthen team self sufficiency in the context of team's role in health facility and health system
 - Support the team leader
 - Strengthen team's decision making ability

Shared responsibilities of coach and team leader

- Set climate of cooperation and openness
- Promote chosen QI process or activity
- Encourage all team members to participate
- Hold team members accountable for action plan

Who Should Be a Coach? - 1

- Ideal
 - QI champion with prior experience on QI team
 - Located at or near sites to be coached
 - External site supervisor
- In reality
 - someone external to facility who needs to be trained in both coaching and QI
- → Do district supervisors make good coaches?

Who Should Be a Coach? - 2

- Must be able to visit site regularly
- Highly motivated and engaged in the activity
- Necessary skills
- Coaching strategy changes throughout collaborative

What skills does a coach need?

Coaching Skills - 1

- Team building skills
- Facilitation skills
 - Intervene appropriately in team processes
 - Effective meetings
 - Decision making
 - Conflict identification, management, and resolution
 - Change management
 - Creativity
 - Help team communicate with other collaborative sites and other actors and groups

Coaching Skills - 2

QI skills – tools and techniques

- Data collection, analysis, and display
- Use of data collection tools
- System and process analysis
 - flow charts
 - cause-effect analysis
- PDSA finding solutions outside the box that strengthen health system and links outside system

Coaching Skills - 3

■ Communication skills

- Active listening
- Giving supportive and constructive feedback
- Effective questioning

■ Training skills

- Training design, development, delivery and evaluation
- Competency-based, just-in-time training
- Positive team training climate
- Interactive training methods

Coaching Goal

- The team leader and the team eventually become self-sufficient
- However, regular supportive supervision is still needed for optimum performance
- Coaching is more effective and sustainable if coaches are part of existing management rather than external
- Rwanda/Niger coaching model
 - Internal (on-site) coaches that may be 'permanent'

Issues with QI Coaching

- Budget
- Logistics
 - getting to sites
 - communicating with teams
- Clinical knowledge
 - → how much is needed by the coach?
- Plan to develop coach skills
 - → How to improve coaches' skills? Ecuador example

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Coaching strategy

- Strategy may change throughout life of collaborative (eg demo vs spread phase)
- Organisation of coaching
 - Use standardized tools and structured agenda for visits
 - coaching in pairs (proven strategy)
 - regular coaching visits vs focus on teams with greater needs
- Coach skills development: how to train, mentor and supervise coaches

Group exercise

You will either

- 1) develop your coaching strategy or
- 2) draft coaching strategy recommendations for collaborative managers

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