

# Innovations in PPH medicines

Heat stable carbetocin for LMICs  
Do we need another drug?

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
*of the*  
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH  
SUPPLIES COALITION

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#RHSUPPLIES2016



# Is quality an issue?

- Oxytocin quality
  - What is the quality problem?
  - Results of studies
- Heat stability testing data
  - Oxytocin
  - HS Carbetocin

# Heat stable carbetocin

- A new formulation of carbetocin
- A uterotonic similar to oxytocin
- ICH Zone IV Heat Stable – Hot Humid/Tropical Zone
- Does not require cold-chain transportation or refrigerated storage
- A single 100µg dose of HSC is effective in preventing PPH
- A single IM or IV dose of HSC produces sustained and rhythmic contractions for up to 119 minutes within 2 minutes
- The half-life of HSC is 8 times longer than oxytocin (40 minutes<sup>2</sup> vs 3-5 minutes)
- Carbetocin registered in more than 70 countries. The heat stable version has been introduced into 27+ countries to date including Australia, Europe and Mexico
- Carbetocin manufactured by Ferring has been used in prevention of PPH in over 8 million women, primarily following caesarean section

# Potential application in LMICs

- Heat stable
  - Appropriate for settings where sustained cold storage is not feasible
    - Hot Humid/Tropical Zone
    - Ineffective cold-chain
    - Lack of refrigeration
- Single dose
  - Appropriate for settings where intensive monitoring of woman after birth is difficult
    - Low levels of staff
- Quality assured
  - Only quality assured product to be made available
- Most appropriate for births attended by SBAs (injection) ie: facilities

# Contacts

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A young girl holds her newborn infant sibling while their mother rests in the Emergency Obstetric Care unit in Upazila Health Complex, Ajmeriganj, Bangladesh.

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