National Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) Operational Plan 2017-2021

Goals

Goals, objectives or targets related to nutrition:

Goal
To contribute to a reduction in morbidity and mortality associated with acute malnutrition in children 0-15 years of age.

Objectives
The following five objectives will help maintain the rates of acute malnutrition in children at less than 5 percent throughout the 5-year period. Each of the objectives has a corresponding strategy and actions outlined in Section 3, and a monitoring and evaluation plan detailed in Section 4.1.

1. Improve availability and access to CMAM supplies and equipment.
2. Increase the competence of human resources involved in CMAM service delivery.
3. Increase effectiveness of CMAM coverage by improving access, acceptability, and utilization of services.
4. Strengthen the enabling environment for CMAM service delivery.
5. Improve monitoring and evaluation and promote the use of data and information to inform CMAM programming and planning.

Strategies

Strategies and activities related to nutrition:

Prioritised Actions to Improve Availability and Access to CMAM Supplies and Equipment

1. Integrate CMAM supplies and equipment into the national health commodity logistics system
2. Advocate to Central Medical Stores (CMS) for increased allocation and long-term funding for RUTF as an essential drug and/or supply
3. Ensure manufacturers and suppliers register therapeutic and supplementary food supplies with the Pharmacy Medicines and Poisons Board (PMPB)
4. Adopt international technical specifications or reference ranges for quality control checks for locally produced therapeutic and supplementary food supplies
5. Perform quality control certification of therapeutic and supplementary food supplies at Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS)
6. Conduct annual national quantification of CMAM supplies with all stakeholders
7. Procure essential CMAM supplies and equipment based on annual needs
8. Implement a national CMAM supplies real-time monitoring and reporting system at all levels
9. Train service providers and managers on CMAM supplies and logistics management
10. Establish sufficient warehouses and safe storage facilities at central, district, and facility levels
11. Improve efficiency of transport of SAM and MAM supplies to the health facility and beneficiary

Prioritised Actions to Increase the Competence of Human Resources Involved in CMAM Service Delivery
1. Establish a practitioners' committee to ensure nutrition content in health professional pre-service training curricula remains current
2. Review the current pre-service training curricula for health professionals to understand gaps and recommend areas to be updated
3. Provide technical update to the pre-service training curricula for nurses, clinicians and HSAs to include CMAM theory and practice
4. Include management of acute malnutrition as part of the nurse and clinician internship program
5. Conduct CMAM training for pre-service tutors and lecturers teaching in the medical and nursing training institutions
6. Conduct CMAM in-service training for all providers in the NRU, OTP, and SFP sites
7. Conduct CMAM training for all district health management teams (DHMT)
8. Develop a computerized training tracking system for personnel trained in CMAM
9. Develop mentorship and supportive supervision guidelines and tools for facility-based CMAM service providers
10. Conduct mentorship and supportive supervision visits for facility-based CMAM service providers in NRU, OTP, and SFP sites

Prioritised Actions to Increase Coverage of CMAM Services
1. Conduct coverage surveys to determine coverage of CMAM services and barriers to access
2. Re-establish community outreach activities countrywide
3. Conduct training of community-based CMAM service providers, including volunteers
4. Harmonise community mobilization efforts across community groups
5. Institutionalise a harmonised system for incentivizing community volunteers
6. Conduct community sensitization and awareness campaigns on acute malnutrition causes, consequences, prevention, and treatment
7. Develop mentorship and supportive supervision guidelines and tools for community-based CMAM service providers and volunteers
8. Conduct integrated mentorship and supportive supervision visits for community-based CMAM service providers and volunteers

Prioritised Actions to Improve the Enabling Environment for CMAM
1. Update the national CMAM guidelines, ensuring integration with other health and nutrition interventions
2. Integrate implementation of CMAM with other health services, such as IMCI, HIV, WASH, and Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) initiatives
3. Operationalise the Targeted Nutrition Programs (TNP) technical working group for improved coordination and monitoring of implementation of the operational plan
4. Integrate CMAM advocacy activities into the national nutrition advocacy plan
5. Develop quarterly CMAM policy and technical briefs to share data, best practices, and lessons learnt
6. Conduct advocacy campaigns for increased awareness of CMAM among national level policymakers
7. Advocate prioritisation and funding of CMAM by the government
8. Advocate increased CMAM funding from development partners
9. Increase financial and logistical support for the CMAM focal persons at national, regional, and district levels
10. Establish performance based incentives (PBI) with the CMAM focal persons with clear articulation of targets

**Prioritised Actions to Improve CMAM Monitoring, Evaluation, and Information Management**

1. Identify country-level CMAM operational research questions that address knowledge and implementation gaps
2. Hold annual CMAM dissemination conferences
3. Conduct annual national review of operational plan implementation
4. Conduct midterm and endline evaluations of operational plan implementation
5. Conduct quarterly DHMT review workshops of CMAM data and programme outcomes
6. Establish real-time data management system for CMAM alerts on preparedness and response
7. Conduct CMAM data management trainings, and use of District Health Information Software ? Version 2 (DHIS-2) for all district HMIS officers
8. Provide logistical and technical support to districts and facilities in the use of DHIS-2

**Prioritised Actions to Intensify CMAM Services to Respond to Emergency and Humanitarian Situations**

1. Intensify case finding through community outreach and mobilization
2. Procure additional supplies and equipment to meet the increased SAM caseload
3. Procure additional supplies and equipment to meet the need for increased MAM caseload
4. Conduct refresher training of CMAM service providers on inpatient care, outpatient care, and SFP
5. Intensify the frequency of government and CMAM partner coordination meetings
6. Intensify real-time monitoring and reporting of CMAM service delivery
7. Conduct Standardised Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) nutrition surveys during the emergency and post-emergency period
8. Conduct coverage survey during an identified emergency period

### M&E Indicators

**M&E Indicators related to nutrition:**

see Table 4.1: National CMAM Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, pages 19-28

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**URL link:**
https://www.fantaproject.org/node/1483

**File upload:**

**Policy topics:**
- Wasting in children 0-5 years
- Food distribution/supplementation for prevention of acute malnutrition
- Management of moderate acute malnutrition
- Management of severe acute malnutrition
- HIV/AIDS and nutrition

**Partners in policy implementation**
- Government
  - Cabinet/Presidency
  - Details: more
    - The Malawi Ministry of Health
- Bilateral and donor agencies and lenders
  - Global Affairs Canada
- Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA-2)
- The World Bank
- US Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Details:
  - Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III Project; Irish Aid; Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI);

- UN agencies
  - United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
  - World Food Programme (WFP)
  - World Health Organization (WHO)

- International NGOs
  - Save the Children
  - Valid International
  - World Vision International

Links