



Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)

The Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) is a global health organization committed to strengthening integrated health systems in the developing world and expanding access to care and treatment for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.

The challenges of the current health training system

Nigeria faces a number of challenges in training, mentoring, and supervising its cadre of health care workers (HCWs). The geographic spread of the country, remote environments in which health providers operate, and the very large number of HCWs means that there are significant financial costs and logistical challenges associated with organizing trainers, accommodation, venues, and stipends for trainings. These are sometimes time-consuming and also take HCWs away from their clinical duties for extended periods of time. This leads to inadequate training and prevents continuing education such as updating HCWs on the latest guidelines and best practices. An additional cost is also incurred in printing and updating job aids, checklists and other supporting material, which often are not adequate to cover all the healthcare facilities in the country, and when available at a facility, end up not being used when HCWs visit communities. Overall, insufficient training and lack of adequate and continuous support hinders HCWs' ability to effectively provide good quality maternal and neonatal health (MNH) care.

Mobile Phone based training system

In order to address the challenges in providing continuous training to health care workers, CHAI proposes the development of a mobile based training application for the different cadres of healthcare workers, community health extension workers (CHEWs), Nurses and Midwives and CORPs, based on existing training material and clinical guidelines. This training application will complement and eventually replace didactic training, which constitutes up to 75% of current training curricula, while practical training will continue at clinics and hospitals. The solution is expected to apply to training for Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC), Family Planning and other MNH commodities, and CHAI will work in conjunction with the FMOH and professional councils including Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) and the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN), to refine and develop these mobile-based training programs.

System Description

The mobile application would be a key component of this mobile training system. Ideally, the app should run across multiple platforms but based on the prevalence of android-based devices in the Nigerian mobile market, the application would have to run primarily on the android platform. The app will have the listed components:

- Training (Content Delivery) ***with the ability to auto-update content as needed*
- Testing / Assessments
- Feedback / Support Module (via SMS and/or Internet)
- SMS notifications / Integration with bulk sms systems

We are also working on an IVR system, which is a section of the mobile training system. At some point, the mobile application will likely have a need to send/receive data to/from the IVR system database.

Development Timeline

Our high-level development timeline starts from April 2014, which entails rigorous development, deployment and testing. It will span to July 2014. Further discussions will be scheduled if we end up working together.